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Governor's Answers To Letters

Dec. 6th 1861 - May 13, 1863

Executive Department
June 30th 1862

Signed 18 Bonds for "Confederate War Tax" dated May 1 1862 $1,000 each, due at 10 years and
No 126 to 143 inclusive ——— $18,000.

Signed for "Deficiencies in Treasury" 36 Bonds dated July 1862
due at 20 years each - No 1 to 36 inclusive of $1,000 each - $36,000
Also 5% of same No 1 to 50 inclusive of $1,000 " - $2,500.

Executive Department
July 15th 1862

Signed for "Deficiencies in Treasury" 9 13 Bonds dated July 1, 1862
due at 10 years, No 37 to 45 inclusive of $1,000 each - $9,000.

Signed 18 Bonds for "Confederate War Tax" dated May 1
1862 for $1,000 each due at 10 years
viz 144 to 161 inclusive - ——— $18,000.

Jno Gill Shorter

Executive Department
Montgomery July 18th 1862

Signed for "Confederate War Tax" 25-18 Bonds of $1,000 each
dated May 1, 1862 due at 10 years, Nos from 101 to 125 inclusive $125,000.

Jno Gill Shorter

Executive Department
Montgomery Oct. 22nd 1862.

Signed for "Deficiency in Treasury" 90 Bonds, dated July 1st 1862
due at 10 years, No 46 to 135 inclusive, of $1,000 each - $90,000.
(To pay for Steamer Florida) -

Jno Gill Shorter,

Executive Department
Montgomery Jany 21st 1862

Signed this day 160 State Bonds, dated March 1, 1861, for one thousand dollars each, at ten years, interest coupons payable March 1 annually - Nos from 677 to 836 inclusive - $160.000.

Jno Gill Shorter,

Executive Department
Montgomery Febry 3rd 1862

Signed this day 19 State Bonds, dated March 1. 1861, for one thousand dollars each, at ten years, interest coupons payable annually on 1 March - Nos from 837 to 855 inclusive -

$19.000

Jno Gill Shorter,

Executive Department
Montgomery Febry 18th 1862

Signed this day 100 State Bonds, dated March 1, 1861, for one thousand dollars each, at ten years, interest coupons payable annually on 1 March - Nos from 856 to 955 inclusive - Jno Gill Shorter,

$100.000.

Executive Department
Montgomery May 8th 1862

Signed this day 50 State Bonds - "issued for payment of Confederate war tax" - dated May 1, 1862, for ten thousand dollars each, at ten years, interest coupons payable annually on May 1 - Not numbered.

$500.000

Jno Gill Shorter,

Executive Department
Montgomery May 10th 1862

Signed this day 15 State Bonds "issued for payment of Confederate war tax" dated May 1, 1862, for ~~One~~ one thousand each, at ten years, interest coupons payable annually on 1 May, — $15,000

Also 11 Bonds, for same purpose, for Five thousand dollars each, dated & payable as last above — $55.000.

The $5.000 bonds Nos from 1 to 11 inclusive -

Jno Gill Shorter,

Executive Department
Montgomery May 12th 1862

Signed this day 11 State Bonds for $1.000 each — $11.000

and also 51 " " $5.000 " — 25.000

"issued for payment of Confederate war tax," dated & payable as last above stated. The $1.000 bonds are numbered from 16 to 26 inclusive, & the $5.000 bonds from 12 to 16 inclusive.

Jno Gill Shorter,

Also signed this day 74 State Bonds of $1.000, numbered from 27 to 100 inclusive, dated & payable as above — $74.000

Also signed this day 34 State Bonds of $5.000, numbered from 17 to 50 inclusive, dated & payable as above - — $170.000

Jno Gill Shorter,

May 12th 1862

Also signed this day 64 State bonds of $1.000, numbered from 101 to 164 inclusive, dated & payable as above — $50.000

Also signed this day 50 State Bonds of $5.000, numbered from 51 to 100 inclusive, dated & payable as above — $250.000

Jno Gill Shorter,

May 12th 1862.

Also signed this day 100 State bonds of $1,000, numbered from 151 to 250 inclusive, dated & payable as above — $100.000

Jno Gill Shorter,

May 19th 1862.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Dec. 5th, 1861.

Hon. A. F. Hopkins,
Dear Sir;

I have the pleasure to hand you enclosed a copy of the Act passed by our General Assembly for Hospital accommodations for our troops in Virginia, and beg to call your attention to its provisions. By the terms of the Act I am constrained to the conviction that it appropriates the funds for accommodations and supplies to be thereafter obtained and that no part of them could properly be applied in extinguishment of any indebtedness or liability incurred heretofore in furtherance of a like humane purpose in Virginia by patriotic citizens of Alabama.

I also herewith hand you a letter to Dr. C. J. Clark and Gen. J. P. Benjamin, Secy. of War, which I beg you to read, and which explains themselves.

With the highest appreciation of the ardent patriotism of yourself and excellent lady, and the assurance of my confidence in your ability and success, and my best wishes for your health and safe return to Alabama, I am

Most Respectfully Yours
(Signed) Jno. Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Dec. 5th, 1861.

Dr. C. J. Clark,
Dear Sir;

I have the pleasure to inform you that our General Assembly have appropriated $30 000 for Hospitals accommodations for our disabled and sick troops in Virginia, and while the appointment of Surgeon is expected to be conferred by me, I am impressed that it might not be agreeable to the Secretary of War for me to interfere with the Army Regulations, which place the appointing power in him, and as the establishment must fall under the supervision of his Department. I have addressed him a letter by Hon. A. F. Hopkins, (who is commissioned by this Department as the agent of the State for the establishment of the Hospitals and who carries with him a copy of the Act under which we are proceeding) advising him that it would be most agreeable to the public authorities of Alabama and our troops, to transfer you from the 10th Alabama Regiment, and assign you to the medical supervision of the Hospitals.

I doubt not that it will be the pleasure of the Secretary of War to comply with our wishes, and I hope that you may consent to accept a position so honorable, where you can render such valuable services to the patriotic soldiers of your State who may require them at your hands.

With highest regards I am
Most Respectfully Yours
(Signed) Jno. Gill Shorter.

2

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Dec. 5th, 1861.

Hon. J. P. Benjamin,
Secretary of War;

Sir,

I have the pleasure to inform you that the Legislature of Alabama has appropriated fifty thousand dollars for Hospital accommodation and supplies for Alabama troops in Virginia, and other divisions of the Army, containing Alabama troops: and that the Hon. Arthur F. Hopkins has been appointed the Agent of the State, who, with his patriotic lady, is now about to set out for Virginia. The Legislature also have provided that the Surgeon for the Hospital, to be established, shall be appointed by the Governor of Alabama; but as we desire the Establishment to be wholly under the Control of the War Department (as it manifestly should be) I decide to commission a Surgeon, as I am carefully desirous not to interfere with the troops properly appertaining to your Department; but as the State has made this liberal provision for her disabled troops in the Confederate Service, and as Dr. C. F. Clark - now Surgeon of the 10th Alabama Regiment - Col. Forney is highly connected and trustworthy and appreciated by our troops and his transfer to that position would be most agreable to this Department, and our public authorities, I doubt not for it will be your pleasure to accommodate our wishes by assigning Doct. Clark to the charge of the Hospital which may be established by Judge Hopkins. And I desire further to request that our Alabama Hospital may receive all the encouragement and assistance from your Department needful to attain the humane object contemplated by its establishment.

With high regard, I am
Your Obt. Servant.
(Signed) John Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Dec. 6th, 1861.

Gentlemen;

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your communication of this date, enclosing the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Alabama, by which is appropriated the sum of twenty-five hundred dollars for the use of the sick and disabled soldiers of Alabama, in the Army of the Confederate States; and also a warrant drawn by the Grand Master on the Grand Treasurer in my favor, as Governor of Alabama for the above amount, to be disbursed in accordance with the instructions of the Grand Lodge. This liberal donation springing from the warm and generous impulses of a Fraternity identified with the noblest deeds of charity and the highest exhibitions of patriotism, will fill the popular heart with joy and gratitude. On behalf of Alabama I thank you for this timely contribution to a cause which demands the combined means and energies of the whole people. The cruel war now being waged against us will sweep the health and lives of neighbors and friends, of loved ones - but the Grand Lodge of Alabama will have the unspeakable satisfaction to know that, to the utmost of its ability, it has relieved the sufferings of those gallant men who shall have gone forth to endure privations, encounter disease and death in the defence of their homes and

Country.

I have deposited the bond offering with the Treasurer of the State, and it will afford me infinite pleasure to apply it in advancement of the humane purpose for which it is designed; and the disposition which shall be made of it shall in due time be communicated to the Grand Lodge.

I beg to return through you, to the Grand Lodge my grateful acknowledgements for the confidence expressed by the high trust confided to me, and I thank you gentlemen for the kind terms in which you have been pleased to address me.

Respectfully Yours
(Signed) John Gill Shorter.

Messrs
Daniel Sayre
C. M. Hastings } Committee.
N. B. Cloud.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Dec. 6th, 1861.

Maj. General Braxton Bragg,
Sir;

Having assumed the duties and responsibilities of Governor of Alabama I embrace the earliest opportunity to convey to you the assurance of the high confidence reposed in you by the people of this State, and my sincere desire to contribute as far as may be in my power, to the support of that cause, which, to us, is dearer than life itself.

I have heard and read with infinite satisfaction of the brilliant defence, by the troops of Alabama and of the Confederate States, under your command, against one of the most terrific bombardments of ancient or modern times; and I heartily congratulate you that you have been spared through the two eventful days which shall forever link your name with those Honoured Heroes, whose fame shall never die.

During the last week, Genl. A. J. Johnston made a requisition on my predecessor — Hon. T. H. Moore — for twelve months' troops, to be armed and equipped by the State with Shot Guns or Rifles — as best we could — for the defence of the Valley of the Tennessee, Mississippi and Cumberland Rivers. Genl. Johnston — by his correspondents — expects the force to be raised in North Alabama; Gov. Moore issued his proclamation accordingly; and companies are now forming in North Alabama and we are also raising for the valley of the Tennessee a force of 500 Slaves for the purpose of aiding in the construction of Fortifications at Fort Henry on that River. Several companies in South Alabama volunteered, and some anxious to go under this requisition and one or two have been already accepted, and, if duly organized, will be ordered to Nashville, provided, they be required to retain them in South Alabama, of which necessity you are to determine.

Any information, as to the entirety of your command, in part and particular as I desire, and any aid I can to confirm in all respects to your authority and to correspond with you in every proper way for the general defence, I beg you, frankly to communicate, that you may know my sentiment, for my guidance in the future.

J. J.

With high consideration I am
Yours
Your Obt. Servant,
(Signed) Jas. Gill Forter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Dec 6th, 1861.

Col. Thos. J. Foster,
Sir,

Your letter of 30th inst has been received asking information in regard to a Regiment being raised by you. I am instructed by the Governor to say to you that if a regiment or battalion or company is raised by you and tendered to him under the proclamation of 22nd Nov. it will be received and ordered to rendezvous at Florence and mustered into the Confederate Service at once, and ordered to Fort Henry on the Tennessee. This will meet the views of Genls. Johnston and Pillow. Genl. Pillow by the aid of Genl. Pillow has been authorized by Genl. Johnson to muster into service the troops raised for the Confederacy. The Governor thinks it best for you to have your companies mustered into service and sent forward as fast as organized without waiting for the organization of the Regiment. The Regiment can be organized at Fort Henry when the companies arrive there. This course is suggested and advised because of the pressing demand for troops. The Governor hopes it will be agreable to you to adopt this course and that you will act with the utmost promptness. His Excellency desires me to tender you his thanks for your efforts to prepare to prevent the enemy from making further encroachments upon our territory.

Very Respectfully
(Signed) A. B. Moore,
Aid de Camp.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Dec 7th, 1861.

Col. J. Davis,
Sir,

Your letter is received and I am instructed by the Governor to say to you that he intends the arms in possession of the Cadets at Sea Grange for troops now being raised under the Proclamation of the Governor of the 22nd Nov. to fill the requisition of the Confederate Government. They are needed therefore for that purpose and cannot therefore be issued to your battalion. The Governor would be pleased to gratify your wishes if he had it in his power.

Very Respectfully
(Signed) A. B. Moore
Aid de Camp.

5

5

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala, Dec. 9th, 1861

Maj. Gen'l Braxton Bragg

Sir,

Your letter of 8th inst. is received and I am instructed by the Governor to say to you that Captain Hoole's Company disbanded before the receipt of your letter and before the Officer sent by you to muster it into service reached their place of rendezvous.

I am Respectfully
Your Obt. Servant.
A.B. Moore.

Braxton Bragg
Major General
Commanding Pensacola.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala, Dec. 10th, 1861.

Maj. Gen. Samuel Weakley,

Sir,

You are hereby authorized to call upon Col. Robertson Superintendent of the LaGrange Military Academy for all the public arms in his possession, to supply companies that may be mustered into service, who have or may tender their services under the Proclamation of the Governor of 22nd Nov. 1861. If Col. Robertson has raised or will immediately raise a company under said call, you will permit him to retain arms for his company.

Very Respectfully
(Signed) John Gill Shorter.

P.S. You will report the number and description of arms which you may obtain to this Department.

(Signed) John Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Dec. 10th, 1861.

Col. Chas. T. Pettus,
Mobile,

Sir,

Your letter of the 6th inst. is received and the Governor instructs me to say that the drafts upon the Treasury for the payment of existing contracts, and appropriations, the Governor of which is impossible at the State and very heavy:- Under the circumstances the Governor does not feel authorized at present to make other contracts which must further embarrass the Treasury. He therefore leaves the question open for the present.

Very Respectfully
(Signed, A.B. Moore,
Aid de Camp.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Dec. 10th, 1861.

Capt. N.D. Johnson,
Ala.

Your letter of 9th inst. is received, and I am instructed by the Governor to say to you that Troops are immediately needed for the service. If you will tender your company armed with rifles, Yeare rifles, four pounders, armed with Shot-guns, Sabres or muskets under the terms of the Governor's Proclamation of Nov. 22nd 1861, it will be accepted and ordered to

Florence or Nashville. The State cannot furnish arms, nor can your Rifles be bored out in time. If you can't get Shotguns you had better take the Rifles in their present condition with bullet moulds and powder horns. This is the advice of Genl Johnson made upon requisition the call for troops is made.

While in Mobile report to Maj. George Goldthwaite, Montgomery, when you will be ready to march and orders will be issued to you at once.

Very Respectfully
(Signed) A.B. Moore,
Aid de Camp.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Dec. 11th, 1861.

Hon. Jno. A. Godfrey,
Sir,

I have received your favour of this date tendering your resignation of the office of Auditor of the Treasury, in defence of the act passed by the General Assembly abolishing the office, if in the opinion of the Governor the said office is then longer necessary. This Act of the General Assembly was in fact not necessary, for the office under the law as it existed at was subject to be discontinued by the Executive whenever in his judgment it could properly be dispensed with. From guile me with the variety and extent of the labors discharged by the office could not have been familiar to many in the General Assembly & as I am sure could not have been a deliberate purpose to abolish the office, and as in my judgment the public interest requires that the office of Auditor to the Treasury should be continued I do not feel at liberty to abolish it.

For these reasons I have deemed it proper to decline to accept your resignation, and respectfully request you to withdraw it and to continue in the discharge of the duties of Auditor of the Treasury an office you have filled with so much efficiency.

Respectfully Yours
(Signed) Jno. Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala., Dec. 12th, 1861.

Hon. A.B. Moore,
Dear Sir,

I have the honor herewith to hand you a Commission as Aid de Camp in my Military Staff, with the rank of Colonel.

This appointment is tendered you not only as a testimonial of my high personal appreciation and regard, but in order if agreeable to you to secure your valuable aid at this juncture in providing for the military necessities of the State, in connection with which I desire to assign you special duties.

Hoping it may be in your power to accept this Commission, I am

Very Respectfully Yours &c
(Signed) John Gill Shorter,

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala., Dec. 12th, 1861.

A. J. Noble
Mayor &c.
Dear Sir,

I wish to have the services of his reliable and trustworthy men engaged for one month as a night watch for the State Capitol, and nothing so well acquainted with persons having the necessary qualifications for such service as yourself. I have to request that you will be so good as to engage for me the services of five reliable men for the purpose and time above stated, and for their compensation at such price as you may in your discretion deem reasonable and just. When engaged please send them to report themselves at the Executive Office this evening at five o'clock for duty.

Your prompt attention to this matter will greatly oblige
Yours Respectfully
(Signed) John Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala., Dec. 12th, 1861.

Hon. A. J. Noble,
Mayor of the City.
Dear Sir,

Your note in reply to mine of today is received, for which I am obliged. Your contract for the watchmen to guard the Capitol is understood and approved. The men are detailed to duty and I doubt not will prove worthy of the trust reposed in them.

Accept my thanks for your prompt attention and assistance.

(Signed) Respectfully Yours
John Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala., Dec. 13th, 1861.

Hon. Wm. A. Grant
Chairman of Finance Committee, Corresponding to
Ladies Aid Society,

Sir;

I have the pleasure to acknowledge receipt of your note of the 11th inst. requesting an advance of funds, to be applied in payment of indigent women for work in manufacturing clothing for our troops—the money to be distributed and disbursed through the Ladies Aid Society of this city.

No one can feel more gratified to our country-women, or honor them more highly than I do for their self-sacrifice and devotion to their country in this day of trial, and while I will most heartily aid to the extent of my means in furtherance of their patriotic labors I am constrained by my conception of official duty to decline an advance from the State Treasury in aid of any of the Societies, now publicly established for the relief of sick and wounded. There is no one in the city of Montgomery, I should advance to such organization in the city laboring in this same praiseworthy cause, and if I should not withhold like advance to Societies in this city, I could not withhold

from similar Societies in the many towns, villages, and neighborhoods of the State. Almost every neighborhood has one organization or more of Ladies Soldiers Aid Society, and there can, it is to be feared, be few remote and obscure districts that are in a needy condition and suffering from the absence of such societies, and to whom relief is not sent.

Upon an examination into the records and files of this Department I have ascertained that we have not the raw materials on hand for manufacturing clothing sufficient to fill the requisitions of the various Societies in the State which ask the privilege of manufacturing the clothing free of all charge to the State. If we are able to have clothing manufactured at the cost of the raw material and freight charges only it is manifest that the State can furnish them at a proportionately reduced rate to our troops. So long therefore as we shall be able to obtain clothing upon terms so favorable to our fair country-women and so favorable to our troops I cannot doubt that you will agree with me that it is my duty to do so. And if the public necessities require more rapid manufacture than can be accomplished by the aid societies, the Quartermaster will be instructed to let our contracts, under proper safeguards to those who may be willing and able to meet requisitions upon just and remunerating terms.

Impressed by the desire the decision herein announced, and the reasons upon which it rests may be fully understood by the Ladies Aid Society which you represent. I beg you to do me the favor to submit it to that society for their information.

I beg leave to hand you herewith a check for $20 which I send out from my own funds in aid of the Society, which please receive with my thanks for all they have done so patriotically for our beloved State and my earnest wishes for their continued success and efficiency.

Respectfully Yours
(Signed) John Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala., Dec. 14th, 1861.

Hon. Arthur F. Hopkins
Richmond, Va.
Sir;

I enclose herewith a copy of "an act for the relief of the Sick Soldiers from Ala. &" passed by our General Assembly at the recent session from this City, — and additional to the act under which you are appointed Agent for the State to establish a Hospital in Virginia.

The act now enclosed provides for the establishment of a Hospital Depot at, or in the neighborhood of Manassas, and for the appointment by me of an Alabama Physician to reside in and who shall have the rank and pay of Major in the Army, and to be paid monthly by my warrant on the State Treasurer.

This act is quite deficient in omitting to make any appropriation for the construction or rent of a depot building, and I think you will agree with me that such an agent, if appointed under such act could not hold "the rank of Major" or any other rank in the Confederate Army, and further that the pay of a Surgeon would be an extravagant compensation for such agent who is to do nothing else but

receive, keep and distribute the Medicines or Hospital Supplies. It has occurred to me after mature consideration of the several acts of the General Assembly, that the powers conferred will be more fully reached by establishing the medical depot at the Alabama Hospital which you may organize, so that all supplies can be sent directly to the Hospital, whether they will be as a general thing more needed, and to which place many articles would have to be shipped, if landed in the first instance at any other point. And Articles desired and sent from the State for particular Regiments or Surgeons could as readily and under a more strict accountability be distributed from the Hospital by an agent appointed for that purpose by the Surgeon in the Hospital and which agent would be strictly accountable to the Surgeon.

This course I approve and recommend and under the provisions of the act enclosed would cheerfully advance - any fifty dollars from me. If so much should be required to pay for the services of such competent clerk or other Agent as the Surgeon might select and agree with. You will, I know, cooperate with me in every manner to save our public expenditures whenever it can be done without prejudice to the comfort and health of our brave. If the Surgeon of the Hospital can persuade upon the Colonels of our Regiments - to detail a man monthly or quarterly to the service of the Hospital and attend to the duties of his position under the direction of the Surgeon, it would supersede the necessity of employing another Agent under pay by the State. I submit this matter for your consideration, and after consultation with Dr. Clark, whom I doubt not will be assigned to the Hospital, as Surgeon, established by you. Allow me to add that what I have herein said is founded upon the belief that you will be able to establish the Hospital at or near the neighborhood of Montgomery Junction.

There is another matter to which I wish to call your attention and that of your excellent Lady. The Grand Lodge of Alabama have placed in my hands $2.500 to be applied in the Hospital Accommodations for our brave. I have decided to appropriate $1000 of the amount to the Hospital you may organize, and have thought it best to have several hundred cotton mattresses made up of 7/8 Osnaburgs to be paid for out of this fund, and have today ordered 5000 yards to be procured & manufactured. The difficulty with me is to know exactly which the Hospital may need. I will therefore request you to send me a memorandum so soon as convenient of all such articles of furniture, bedding, &c required, and which can be better purchased here. — And of all such articles of Home, Mexicans &c. So that I may give full and proper information by circular letter, of the State when the Hospital is organized. With high regards I am

Very Truly Yours
(Signed) Jefferson Davis.

10

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala., Dec. 18th, 1861.

Capt. Jas. D. Webb,
My Dear Sir;

I enclose you herein a copy of an Act of our General Assembly by which I am authorized to designate a Regt. master of any Alabama regiment in the Army of the Potomac, who shall have the right to draw on the State Treasury for the sum of Fifteen Hundred Dollars or such less sum as may be necessary to be used in the erection of a building at Manassas, Virginia, to shelter and protect the clothing and other articles belonging to the Volunteers from this State in the Army of the Potomac.

I have taken the liberty to appoint you to execute this trust in behalf of the State, and sincerely hope it may be in your power to accept and discharge it; as from your known skill and fidelity, I shall have the utmost confidence that the object contemplated by the General Assembly will be fully attained. Of course within the limitations of the Act you will use your best discretion; but I hope you will pardon me for adding that such large and manifold appropriations have been made by the General Assembly from the Treasury that if you can accomplish the object for a less amount than the limit fixed, it would be most agreeable to the Treasurer.

In order that you may obtain the money with the least trouble to yourself and the accountants in the Treasury Department I herewith hand you the form of a warrant, which you can fill up in favor of Mr. Jas. L. Albright, engaged in my Office, who on receipt of it will draw the money and forward you a remittance of the same by check on Richmond. Awaiting your reply I am with high personal regards

Your Friend & Obt. Servant,
(Signed) John Gill Shorter.

18

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala, Dec 19th 1861

Began
ture

Gen'l Jno. L. Butler,
Mobile,
Sir,

Your letter of 17th inst. is received, and I am instructed by the Governor, to say to you, that he is of the opinion that the Regiment being formed under the Act of 1852 will be numbered the "2d Regiment" under the Militia Code of 1852.

The Volunteer Act of 1860 has been repealed; the effect of this is to place the Regiment lately Commanded by Col. Todd in the position it occupied before the passage of the Volunteer Act of 1860. It was, then, the first Volunteer Regiment, and will now, be entitled to rank such. The Regiment you refer to will be styled the Second Volunteer Regiment of Alabama Militia.

Very Resp'y.

(Signed) A. B. Moore,
Aid de Camp.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. Dec 19th 1861

Dr P. Boyce,
Tuscaloosa, Ala.

My dear Sir,

I am just now in receipt of your favour of 15th Inst. Every word you say is approved and endorsed. If the Board of Directors could, resolutely refuse the Asylum consecrated to suffering humanity — to be polluted by the foot-print of our insolent invaders.

I have, this moment, sent the following Telegraphic despatch to the Secretary of War:

"Better send no more prisoners to Tuscaloosa — accommodations exhausted — Lunatic Asylum will not be leased — To seize it would disorganize the Institution, and arouse the just indignation of a loyal & Christian people!"

Truly Yours,
(Signed) John Gill Shorter.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala, Dec 19th 1861

Copies 19th & 21st inst; (dated 18th)
— Brigadier Gen. L. M. Jenkins, (Sheffield, Fayette Co, Ala.)

Dear Sir,

I have received — and duly considered your favour of 8th inst. It is to be regretted that any man should be found in Alabama — either so ignorant — or so false to his Country, as to intimate a willingness to side with the Enemies of his Country. So long, however, as such a man may talk & plot, he can, perhaps, do little or no harm — beyond exciting the just contempt of all good men. If, however, in pursuance of a wicked purpose, he does any act with intent to aid the Enemy, he commits Treason against the Confederate States, and should be, instantly arrested — & committed to Prison, to await his Trial for the offense. And, under our Statutes, all Citizens are empowered to arrest persons guilty of Treason — or other felonious crimes. All the power of the State shall be promptly, used, if need be, at any time, to maintain the allegiance — due to its authority; and if individuals are found, within our Jurisdiction, who are charged upon Affidavit — and probable Cause, with acts of Hostility to this State or to the Confederacy — all the Executive Officers of the State will be expected on notice, to proceed with their arrest with the utmost diligence & promptitude; and, if necessary, to call in a posse — Comitatus, either Civil or Military, to aid in the execution of the Law.

In respect to the Post-Master — whose misconduct you mention, I have to observe that he is an officer of the Confederate Government, & if the facts stated can be verified, on affidavits, they should be thus attested, and forwarded to the Post-master-General, at Richmond, without delay.

Commissions, for the several Military Officers, whose elections have been certified to me under cover of your letter, I have ordered to be made out, and mailed immediately.

Very Respt.
(Signed) John Gill Shorter

12

10

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala, Dec 19th 1861

Hon. J. P. Benjamin,
Sec'y of War
Richmond,

Better send no more prisoners to Tuscaloosa— accommodations exhausted— Lunatic asylum will not be leased— To seize it would disorganize the Institution, and arouse the just indignation of a loyal and Christian people.
(Dispatch)

John Gill Shorter
Governor
of Alabama.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Dec 21st 1861

Hon. J. P. Benjamin,
Sec'y of War;

Sir,

I have the Honour to receive your letter of the 19th to Gov Sh— in relation to Mr D. M. Rowley— a citizen of Florida— said to be in prison here— with request to have his case examined, &c— and the same shall have immediate attention.

With high regard, I am,
respectfully Yours,
(Signed) John Gill Shorter

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala, Dec 21st 61.

Hon. J. P. Benjamin,
Secretary of War;

Sir,

I have your dispatch of yesterday— in which you say "I shall send no more Prisoners to Tuscaloosa— never thot of seizing Asylum."

In Explanation of my Dispatch of the 19th I beg to say that, on that day, I received a letter from Dr P. Bryce, Medical Superintendant of the Insane Hospital at Tuscaloosa, dated the 16th inst. in which he wrote, among other things, the following Sentence: "Dr Searcy, the President of our Board of Trustees, told me this morning, that the Officer Commanding the Guard, stated to him that he had received a dispatch— authorizing him to seize any— & every available house for the purposes of the Prisoners, and, if necessary, occupy the Insane Hospital." I did not believe that such a dispatch had been issued, by your direction; but I could not doubt the verity of the Statement made to me— or that such a dispatch had been received by your Officer, who affirmed that he had received it.

I am pleased to know that no other prisoners are to be forwarded to Tuscaloosa; It cannot accommodate more than are already there. With High regards, I am,
Respectfully— Yours

(Signed) John Gill Shorter—

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala, Dec 25th 1861

To the Sheriff of Walker County,
Sir;

Rumors having reached this office that there are, in all probability, within the limits of your County, Criminal Refugees from Tennessee or Conspirators, giving aid and Comfort to the Enemies of this State & the Confederate States, I have deemed it my duty to issue the Enclosed process. You will carefully examine it and see that your County is not made the abode of traitors to their Country.

The Right of free discussion, and of the citizens peaceably to assemble to gether for their Common good, and to apply to those invested with the Powers of Government for redress of grievances, or other purposes by petition, address, or remonstrance, must not be infringed. But as there is a manifest difference between the peaceful assemblage of loyal citizens, for the purpose of reforming and sustaining their Government to which they owe their allegiance and Collections or combinations of disloyal men whose purpose may be to overturn their State organizations, by giving Countenance and aid to the public Enemies of the State of Alabama, and of the Confederate States You are instructed to observe said distinction and to disperse all unlawful Combinations, and arrest all persons, engaged in them, with the Criminal intent to aid the Enemies of this State or the Confederacy.

Your active & diligent prosecution of your duties, under this order, is expected & demanded by this Department.

Respectfully, Yours
(Signed) In. Gill Shorter.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala, 25th 1861

Gentlemen,

I have received your Communication of the 18th instant, and have conferred fully with your messenger and, in reply, beg to assure you that the duty imposed upon me, by the Constitution to see that the Laws shall be faithfully executed shall be discharged to the utmost extent of my ability. Disgraceful as it might be to the fair name of Alabama, and painful as it would be the alternative to me, to have to proceed against disaffected and disloyal Citizens within the limits of the State, you may rest assured that the most prompt & effective measures shall be adopted for the apprehension of every man wherever located who engages in any open act of Rebellion against the authorities of Alabama or of the Confederate States.

In the accomplishment of this purpose, I would not hesitate, should it become necessary, to use the Military power of the State, until the last Traitor is hunted down and brought to merited Punishment.

I cannot but indulge the hope, that the misguided if not ignorant & mis-informed men in the localities you mention, may repent of their foolish and unpatriotic declarations, and, quietly submit to the laws of the State and unite, with other loyal Citizens, in upholding & maintaining its authority

[illegible] wickedly bent and resolved upon [illegible]
[illegible] State of Alabama or the Confederate States
[illegible] beyond, can oppose before their purpose and
[illegible] will be tested in such mode as to determine
[illegible] and cause them to feel the Power of the Executive

[illegible] a Copy of Military Order No. 1, issued from
[illegible] Yesterday before the arrival of your
[illegible] here. This will be rigidly enforced and after
[illegible] of thirty days will be renewed most likely
[illegible] days to add to or organize and discipline the
[illegible] for any Emergency which may arise. All
[illegible] must be immediately filled up by Elec-
[illegible] orderly and persons elected required to take
[illegible] Office before appearing on Parade or otherwise
[illegible] Musters and Privates. The Commissions to all
[illegible] who may refuse to take the oath issued
[illegible] Office will be vacated and no others after
[illegible] except upon Certificate showing that
[illegible] Officer elected has taken and subscribed the Oath.
[illegible] Your own reflection will enable you to see how im-
[illegible] must be the efforts of a few indiscreet if not bad men
[illegible] of this Military Order, and the results which will speedily follow it.

The General assembly have ordered three Thousand copies of the military Code with its amendments to be republished. I have ordered the immediate prosecution of this work. The Press will begin it this week, and I hope to have it distributed within a short period.

Respectfully, Yours,

(Signed) Jn° Gill Shorter

Messrs H. A. Gamble,
J. M. Hampton,
L. T. Gilbert,
D. L. Stovall,
Jn° M. Wallace,
Jasper—Walker Co.
Ala—

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama.
Dec^r 24th 1861.

Col. M. C. Ramsey.
Houston, Winston Co. Ala.

Sir. Your letter of the 9th inst. was received at the end of the Session, when a pressure of business prevented a reply. Commissions for the Officers named by you were issued & forwarded on the 13th Inst. You will see, by Military Order, No: 1, from this Department that Regimental Musters are to be held within sixty days. At the expiration of that time I will order musters every thirty days or sooner. No officer will be allowed to appear on Parade, who has not taken the oath prescribed by the Military Code. All Commissions which have been issued to parties who refuse to take the oath, will be vacated, on notice to this Department and they left subject to duty as other Privates in the ranks. If re-elected, they shall not be re-commissioned. If their names are reported here they do take the oath, and certificates of the facts are forwarded

dispatched today, by a Special Messenger, writs of Arrest for all disloyal persons in the County of Winston, and some other adjoining Counties; under cover of Instructions to the Sheriffs of the Counties. Those sent to the Sheriff of your County you will, doubtless, see; I will lend him the aid of the Military Power, if required to enable him fully and Efficiently to perform his duty.

Respectfully Yours.

(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Dec 25th 1861

Hon. J. P. Benjamin,
Secretary of War,

Sir,

In further reply to yours of 17th inst. I have to inform you, that I have submitted the matter in reference to the Prisoner Rowley, to the attorney-General M. D. Baldwin, of this State, who saw Maj. Calhoun — Jr master, C.S. and informs Col. Baldwin that no specifications were forwarded by Maj. Genl Bragg, — under whose order Rowley was committed to Prison, and no further information can be obtained here.

The prisoner has been transferred to Tuscaloosa.

Yours, very Respectfully.

(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Dec 25th 1861.

Hon. J. P. Benjamin,
Secretary of War,

Sir.

The untimely death of Col. C. H. Bullock, of the 18th Alabama Regiment, now in Camp near Mobile, brings up the question — How are vacancies in the field-officers of this Regiment to be filled? The Companies were organized by the Election of Company-officers by the men, and were then turned over by the State to the Confederacy as Companies. They were then organized into a Regiment and the Field-officers were appointed by the President. The Company-officers were Commissioned by the State and were furnished on response to a requisition on the State for 3000 troops, but the field-officers were — or are to be Commissioned by the President.

It is our opinion here that while vacancies in the Company-officers should be filled by Election according to the laws of Alabama under which the Companies were organized — the rule of promotion will apply as to the Field-officers which are filled by Executive Appointment.

In this event there will be a vacancy in the office of Major and I recommend for appointment to that position — J. W. Whiting — a first Lieutenant and adjutant in Major Lee's Battalion. Lieut Whiting graduated in 1857, at Hampton Military Institute, Virginia. He has been an officer in our Volunteer Corps ever since; and has been in active service from the

day Alabama Seceded. For Several Months- he had had the advantages of the School of Military drill and instructions under Gen Hardee- while in Command of Fort- morgan. He is- unquestionably- a gentleman of high tone, and decided Character- and a very Efficient officer.

I beg to add further- that in my judgement he is justly entitled to Some Consideration from the fact that his father was one of the unfortunate Sufferers at Hampton, and lost his residence- and a portion of his slaves by the depredations of the Enemy-

With high regard, I am,
Your obt Servt
Jno Gill Shorter.

(Signed)

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Decr 26th 1861

To L. Garland-
My dear Sir,

At the request of some of the Citizens of the Counties adjouring Tuscaloosa, I have directed the Shipment of five hundred Sacks of Salt- belonging to the State, at Mobile- to your City, to be Consigned to the Quarter-master of the University- Knowing no other person or officer in your Locality who was a proper person to attend to the Sales. The Sole purpose is- to afford some relief to the people, by keeping them- if possible out of the hands of Speculators; & to do this the State sells the Salt at actual cost and expenses- very high- it is true- but greatly so much so as it would have been had not the State become the Purchaser.

As I have not the pleasure of a personal acquaintance with the Gentleman to whom the Salt is Consigned, I must trouble you- so far as to ascertain if it will be in his Power to Super-intend and direct, and, if not, I must ask the favour of you to appoint a proper & responsible person, who will give to it the necessary attention.

I also, enclose memorandum, intended as instructions for who-ever may have charge of the business, and which I will thank you- personally- to hand him, and direct his particular attention to it.

You will, I know, excuse the liberty I have taken, in troubling you with these matters- So much out of your line- and for asking you to advise me of your action at your Earliest Convenience.

Very Respectfully,
Jno Gill Shorter.

(Signed)
To L. C. Garland, Tuscaloosa.

P.S. The Salt will arrive about the time this letter reaches you.

Memorandum in relation to the Sale of Salt in Tuscaloosa.

(1) The Agent of the State will obtain Storage by the Week or Month at lowest rates, and Sell, for actual consumption only, at not less than $12.50 per Sack.

(2) The Agent should use those means which he deems most effectual- to Satisfy himself that the purchaser buys for actual Consumption; but Sales may be made to persons for resale- where the purpose is the supply of their Customers- at a reasonable rate of profit, which the

agent must ascertain & decide - on.
(3) agent will report Amount of Sales, weekly.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. Dec 26th 1861

Richard O. Pickett,
Adjt & Inspector Gen A. M.

Sir

I enclose you, herewith, General order - No 1, issued by the Hon A. B. Clitherall - your representative here - by my direction. I am, this day, preparing a Special order for Brig - Gen Tho J. Butler, of Mobile, directing a thorough organization of the Militia of his Brigade, & regular drills of Companies, with a view to join in the Defence of the City against an attack by the Enemy. Various other orders must be issued from time-to-time, and a large correspondence will now spring - up, which must be despatched with energy and promptitude - in order to give all needful information to the officers in different sections of the State - to Enable them to furnish proper returns to your office - and to make effectual the purposes and ends which I have in view. Books and Records must be Kept - and no little labour will be required to meet the demands on your Office. And while to discharge its duties fully, at a perilous time like this, You should be here - at the Capitol - where the Military Code requires your office shall be kept, so that I can have the advantage and pleasure of daily communication with you. This necessity of your presence might be supplied by an Efficient representative, like Judge Clitherall, but Candor requires me to say - that neither the public Interest nor your own - can be so fully advanced by another - as by yourself; and that the amount of Labour will become too onerous to be imposed upon any friend - however generous and willing he might be - to work in your Stead - for your accommodation.

As you left for Home, immediately upon the adjournment of the General Assembly, and without reporting for orders at this office, I had no opportunity to Confer with you, or to Communicate to you my views and policy with respect to the Militia of the State, and I cannot undertake to do so in a letter.

I leave this City - on to-morrow - for a brief absence at Eufaula - to arrange some pressing business affairs, and shall return to the Capitol by the 7th of January, at which time I hope to have the pleasure of seeing you in person - if you can meet me - or to have a letter in reply.

With great respect
I am
Your ob't Ser't
Jno Gill Shorter

(Signed)

X8

16

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. Dec 2d 1861

Wm. C. Flannagan, Esq.
Sir,

I have, before me, your favour of the 21st inst. in relation to your son and young Mr Abell.

I, fully, appreciate their laudable motives, and your anxiety in their behalf—but, I regret the absence on my part—of much power to further their wishes.

Probably—an application to the Confederate Government through some friend in Richmond, might meet a favorable response; in which case, any aid I can give them will be most cheerfully accorded by, Sir,

Yours, Very Respectfully
(signed) Wm. Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Dec 31st 1861

Mr A. J. Smith,
Sir,

Your letter of the 26th inst. just rec'd. Keep an a/c of your Expenses—they will be paid by the State—or—if you need any money before leaving, state the amount—and how it should be sent, and it will be remitted. Let me know the number of Packages; over what roads—and to what point you wish to take them—so that transportation may be provided before you leave.

Very Resp'y
Wm. Gill Shorter, by
(signed) Jas S. Albright
Private Sec'y

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Jan'y 3 1862

Mr L. E. Brame,
Livingsboro, Ala.
Sir,

In reply to your esteemed favour of Dec 26th I have to say that I will pay $35 a piece for 100 new or improved Enfield rifles with Sabre-bayonets. This is the price they are reported to bring in the Confederacy—under the blockade. I will pay the above-price for the arms—boxed and delivered here or in Mobile. If you raise a Company of 12 months' your Command will be ordered to Kentucky. Gen'l Bragg will not accept troops on the Coast except for the War. If you can procure the arms—on the terms above-mentioned, and will raise your Company—& report ready for marching orders by first of February—I will accept you, and allow your men the use of the arms.

Respectfully
Yours
(signed) Wm. Gill Shorter.

17

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Jany 4th 1862.

Thos. M. Peters,
Richd O. Pickett, and others,
Gentlemen,

Your favor of the 1st inst. in reference to the recommendation of Mr Z. F. Freeman for the position of military Agent to procure Clothing &c. for Volunteers - under an Act of the last Session of the Legislature.

The Act referred to is wholly unavailable at present, for the reason that the $180.000 appropriation by it are not in the Treasury. All expenditures from the Treasury are being made out of balances of former appropriations - and it would be useless to appoint Agents - before the money appropriated shall have been realized by the Treasury.

Very Respectfully
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Jany 4th 1862

Hon. Wm M. Smith,
Selma, Ala.

Sir,

Your favor, of 28th ult. to the State Treasurer, has been referred to this office for attention. I am happy to say that I approve and endorse all you say. The difficulty of obtaining Engraving &c. is well known to us.

Your proposition to pay into the State Treasury, $50.000 - from time to time, in exchange for State Bonds, will be agreeable to us; and Currency will be received from your Bank - in view of the fact, that you propose to take - at least $300.000 of the Bonds - which will be advantageous to the State.

I leave to-day - for Mobile, on business connected with the Military Defence.

Respectfully, Yours,
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala, Jany 11th 1862

Hon. Richard A. Pickett.

Sir,

Your letter of the 1st Inst., resigning the office of Adjutant & Inspector Gen'l &c. has received due time. Under the facts and circumstances, stated in your letter - I fully concur with you as to the propriety of your resignation; but regret that I should be deprived of the presence and assistance of a gentleman so competent to render such efficient aid in the organization of the Militia. Your resignation is accepted.

Very respectfully
Your Ob't Serv't
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter

20

1

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. July 17th 1862

Hon. J. P. Benjamin,
Secretary of War,

Sir,

I have recently visited the Forts and Encampments near, Pro[illegible]-at, and near Mobile, and deem it my duty, to the People of Alabama, to report to your Department the great need of munitions for the defense of our Coast both guns for the fortifications and small arms for the land forces. I hope to be able to specify at an early day the description and number of guns needed for the Forts. The land forces there are now wanting several thousand muskets or rifles.

I beg to hand you enclosed a letter from the Hon P. Hamilton Chairman of the Executive Committee of Safety for the City of Mobile in reference to certain arms in Havanna, and to call your attention to the suggestions contained in it, and respectfully, to ask your Compliance with the same.

7 In our opinion, I am sorry to say that, in view of the increasing armaments & numbers of the Enemy in the Gulf and his threatening attitude toward our Coast, we are, perhaps, as unprepared by want of guns and arms for his reception, as any Point in the Confederacy.

I hope I may be pardoned for reminding the Department, of the many thousand arms which Alabama promptly contributed and sent into distant States, in the hands of her own Volunteers, for the common defense and for further advising that, under the recent requisition of General A. S. Johnston, we have forwarded over two Regiments of armed troops to Tennessee & Kentucky. We make no boast of these achievements on the contrary we profoundly regret that we had it not in our power to do far more than had been accomplished. While, however the Enemy is now seriously threatening our own soil, which has, thus far, spared the pollution of his foot print, in view of our own destitution by reason of a surrender of our Arms for the defense of other prior exposed localities I am sure you will most favorably consider the sincere and urgent appeal I here make.

We have the means with which to procure additional arms, and are making Contracts for their manufacture within the State, but the emergency is now so pressing, that we are unwilling to await the delays of delivery months hence and have no other alternative but to appeal to your Department to afford us prompt & timely relief.

Awaiting & trust to your early & favorable response I am, with high regard,

Your Obt Servt

(Signed) Jno. Gill. Shorter.

C

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. Janf 13th 1862

Hon. J. F. Watson

Dear Sir,

The office of Adjutant-and Inspector-General, of the Alabama militia, had been vacated by the resignation of Hon. R. O. Pickett. In view of the duty devolved upon me to, thoroughly, organize the Militia of the State, for the Defense of the State and Country - and the valuable aid which your experience will enable you to render the State in its Military Department, I have ventured to tender you the enclosed Commission to the office of Adjutant and Inspector-General of the Alabama militia, and I earnestly request that it may be agreable to you to accept the same.

With high regards, I am
Your obt Sr.
(Signed) Jno. Gill Shorter.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala, Janf 13th/62

Mr A. Burrass, Lessee of Penitentiary, Metumpka, Ala.

Sir

- necessary absence from the Capitol has prevented an earlier reply to your letter of the 6th inst.

As under Sect-3705 of the Code of Alabama- the Executive, in his discretion, may order a deduction of two months from each year of imprisonment, where the Board of Inspectors have reported the conduct of the Convict as unexceptionable during the time of his imprisonment; and as, in my judgement, such an exercise of Executive clemency will have a wholesome influence over the Conduct of the Prisoners, I hereby authorize you - without special instructions, to allow the deduction in all cases - except those prohibited by the latter Clause of Sect 3705 of the Code.

Very Respy
Yr obt Sert
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Janf 13th 1862.

To/ Drs James C. Harris - M. G. Moore - Thos. W. Mason,
Metumpka, Ala.

Gentlemen;

Under the Act of the General Assembly of 9th Decr 1861 Dr Thos. W. Mason, Physician to the Penitentiary, has reported, to this Department, the enclosed lists of Persons in the State-Prison - suffering from Insanity - in its various forms.

The Law - in this event - makes it my duty to appoint three Physicians - of skill & experience - of whom the Physician of the Penitentiary shall be one - to Examine the persons reported to be insane, and to report the result of such Examination to this Office.

In furtherance of the Law - I have appointed you - and each on of you - to constitute a Board of Examiners; and have to request that you will visit the Prisoners mentioned, and examine - and report their Several Conditions - as to insanity - to this Department.

Very Respy Yr obt Sert.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

22

Executive Department.
Montgomery ala Jan. 13th 1862

Mr Thos E. McNeil. Dalton. Geo.

Sir,

An unexpected summons to Mobile and our Gulf Coast has prevented an Earlier reply to your two Communications- proposing the establishment of an armory- in the State of Alabama, for the manufacture of Small-arms.

After due reflection, I have concluded to submit to you, the following qualifications- to the propositions made by you.

1. The arms shall be manufactured at an armory in this State, which shall be permanently located in Alabama, and which shall not be removed beyond the State, nor abandoned- on pain of forfeiture to the State-

2. No other arms shall be made at the Armory- until the State shall have received full payment- in arms- as stipulated in the Contract; and the State shall have the right- in perpetuity- to purchase or order the manufacture of- arms, in preference to all other Contractors, & at fair market prices at the Armory.

3. The advances shall be made in amounts, to be mutually fixed- and in State- Bonds- having years to run- at 8 pr. Ct. interest per annum- with interest- Coupons attached- payable semi-annually, and shall be received at par value, and paid- for- in the character and description of arms- and at the price mentioned by you- you, of course, crediting the State in settlements- with the amount of Bonds advanced at par value- with 8 pr. Ct. interest pr. annum, from the date of the advances.

4. The advances and interest to be secured by Personal Security- within the State of Alabama (to be approved by the Governor of the State) and by mortgage- or deed of trust on the lands & buildings to be occupied- and on the machinery- tools- and materials, to be supplied for the Establishment.

5. The delivery of the Arms to be made at the State-Armory- at the Capitol-

If you accept these qualifications to your propositions, I am disposed to Contract with you to the amount of $.250.000, as provided in the appropriation made by the Genl Assembly. You will please notify me- at your earliest convenience, or come down, & confer further, on the subject.

Your obt Servt.

(signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Mobile, Jany 10th 1862.

Maj Gen Thos W. McCoy. C

Sir, I hand you- herewith- Military Order No 1. to which I call your immediate- and earnest attention. The public defense against the invasion now threatening our soil, is a matter of primary importance Orders- Special- have been directed by me- to Brig. Genl Butler, for the organization of his Brigade, more stringent than those herewith communicated, to be extended- by you to the 22d Brigade. The reasons for this departure are sufficient to justify the same.

Regretting that it has not been in my power to call upon you- in return for your polite attentions, I am

Respectfully Yours.

(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. Jany 14th 1862

Majr Genl Braxton Bragg, V
Pensacola.

Sir

A Colonel- commanding one of our Alabama Regiments-in Virginia, has notified this Department that the Secretary of War has directed him to turn-over- to the Ordnance- officer of the Confederate States- the Arms and accoutrements of his discharged men. The Regiment was enlisted for 12 months. We have Six Regiments in the Service- all armed by the State- who will be discharged in a few months- unless they re-inlist. Circulars have been issued by the Secretary of War, giving notice the Government will not pay for private Arms, in the hands of twelve-months' troops. To prevent any misconstruction- and to adjust the question- as to whether the State shall have her arms return with her troops, or be held, by the Confederate Authority, for the use of other troops from Alabama, who may re-organize the Regiments, as the property of the Confederacy, and credited to the State- in her account of Expenditures; I propose to correspond with the Secretary of War at an Early day.

As the Arms of the First Alabama Regiment are in your Command, and will-likely- remain on the Coast, where they can be effectively used for the Defense of Alabama- as well as the Common Cause. I am persuaded that- as to them- any adjustment which may be made would be satisfactory; but, in advance of any adjustment of the questions involved, I deem it my duty to notify you, that the State of Alabama claims property in the Arms held by "The First Alabama, and all other Twelve- months' Regiments- from this State under your Command; as also- property in all accoutrements, & Camp- Equipments, furnished by the State; and this notification is forwarded- merely as precautionary- & to avoid any imagined plea of estoppel which might be suggested in Case of a failure- on part of the State- to properly adjust her claim with the Secretary of War.

Hoping you will do me the honor to acknowledge the receipt of this Communication, I am-

With high regard
Your obt Servt
(Signed) John Gill Shorter.

P. S. I have retained a copy.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Jany 14th 1862.

Hon. J. P. Benjamin, Secy of War.

Sir,

The State of Alabama has, in service, a number of Twelve-months' Volunteers, who have been wholly armed with the public arms of the State, and whose accoutrements, and Camp- Equipages have been furnished, in a great degree by the State, and by the men themselves. Some of these Regiments are about closing up their Term of enlistment, and the occasion suggests the propriety of adjusting the rights & claims of the State and her Citizens, before the Arms- are surrendered by her troops. As the Arms- & all other appliances- furnished by this State- were heartily contributed to the Common Defense, Alabama asks no other consideration- or concession- than such as may be accorded by her Sister Confederate States.

A Colonel, in command of one of our Regiments

24

in Virginia, has advised this Department, that he has received an order, from you, to turn-over-to an Ordnance-Officer of the Confederate-States, the arms and accoutrements of all non-Commissioned-Officers & privates, under his Command, who may be discharged from service. He is in Command of a Regiment enlisted for twelve months. Circulars, from your Department, have given notice that arms-in the hands of twelve-months' troops-will not be paid-for by the Confederate Government.

This State has-recently-in addition to the private arms furnished by the troops, sent nearly a thousand, belonging to the State, into Tennessee and Kentucky, in response to a requisition-made upon the State, by General A. S. Johnston.

If the Government proposes to pay for any and not all, the State should have timely notice of the proposition. There can be but little doubt-that the troops who have furnished their own arms have done so-under the belief, that the Government would pay for them-provided they are willing to sell. All disquietude, however, upon this point, could be easily removed by the State-authorities, provided they are duly advised of the will and purpose of the Confederate government.

If any understanding or rule has been adopted for general application to all the States, and which has, already, been acquiesced-in, in such a manner as would commend its propriety to Alabama, I would not disturb or question its correctness; but-in absence of all information on the subject-I beg-respectfully, to advise you, that this State does not admit the right of the Secretary of War to control the arms in the hand of the Alabama troops-when their period of enlistment has expired-without consultation with the Executive of the State-as to the claim or purpose-under-& for which-such control is asserted.

Repeating that-Alabama will cheerfully acquiesce in any fair & uniform rule which may be adopted-even if it occasion the State severe inconvenience at this particular juncture, when her own soil & people are daily menaced by the Enemy; and expressing the Hope that I may, at an early day, be favored with a reply to this Communication

Very Respy

Your obedient Sert

(Signed)

Jno Gill Shorter

Executive Department
Mobile, Jany 9th 1862

To Genl D. C. Greene
Quarter-master Genl
of the State.

Sir,

You will not interfere with the arms now in possession of the Mobile Troops, but leave the same with them. Furthermore, if you have any of the arms of the State in your possession-or under your control, or if any should-hereafter, come into your possession or control, you are authorized and requested to place them at the disposal of any organized-Volunteer Militia-Company in the County of Mobile, upon the proper application being made and bond given.

If there are any other of the State arms in the possession

of any Volunteer Company in Mobile or ensured under the military Code of 1852, you will allow them so To remain unless otherwise ordered

Yours, Respectfully,

(Signed) Jn° Gill Shorter. A

Mobile, January 9th 1862.

To Brigadier-Gen.l D. H. Butler
Commanding 9th Brigade, A. M. V.

Gen.l Withers assures me that he will furnish the ammunition and ball, for making Cartridges, for any of your Volunteer Companies that stand in need of them. I beg to say also, that I shall not authorize the taking of any arms out the hands of any organized Company in your Command. The Mobile Greys can retain their Arms.

I am in hopes you will succeed in getting a goodly number of double-barrelled Shot-guns, and rifles out of the hands of private citizens in Mobile County, & if necessary, I will do see that funds are furnished to purchase rifles & Bowie knives for such of your Command as have them not. I will assure you also that for any reasonable bills for printing your orders as Brig. Gen.l Commanding I will furnish the means of payment.

Yours. Resp'y

(Signed) Jn° Gill Shorter.

P.S. Gen.l Gunn is authorised to furnish such ammunition as may be in his possession.

(Signed.) Jn° Gill Shorter. A

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. January 15th 1862

Col. D. Lomax. Norfolk, Va.

Sir,

I have the pleasure to acknowledge receipt of your favor of 5th Inst. for which I am obliged.

I herein, enclose you a copy of a letter addressed by me to the Secretary of War. When we have agreed upon the questions involved - I will communicate, further, with you on the Subject. Your views - in the premises are appreciated & approved.

I am gratified at the Report made, by you, of the Condition of your magnificent regiment, and fondly hope it may re-organize, in advance for the War, as the First Alabama Regiment is now doing at Pensacola. We have, to-day, been advised of an Agent going down with the funds some Sum of $50.000, to advance to the men - now re-enlisting. God bless these gallant men. Will not the glorious Third Regiment follow such a proud Example?

Very truly,

Yours,

(Signed) Jn° Gill Shorter. C

26
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Executive Department.
Montgomery, Ala. Jany 16th 1862.

Dr C. I. Clark, Richmond, Va.

Dear Sir,

Necessary absence from the Capitol & pressing duties connected with the public defense have prevented earlier consideration of and reply to your letter of 24th ulto.

At this distance and personally unacquainted with those various facts and considerations which should control the location of our Hospital accommodations, I can but rely upon your own best judgement, and that of Judge Hopkins, & his excellent Lady: and I am pleased to feel that we may rely with entire confidence upon the discretion & wisdom which you may together exercise in the management of the important interest committed to your Supervision.

The manifest design of the Gen" Assembly was first to secure an efficient agent to locate & provide Hospital accommodations for our Alabama troops, in Virginia, on as broad & beneficial a basis as should be found compatible with the appropriation of $30.000. and, secondly, that the accommodations thus provided should be under the direction of a Skillful Physician & Surgeon from our own State. And I will add further that, as the great body of our troops were near to or in the vicinity of Manassas junction, the General Assembly seems to have entertained the opinion that the Hospital would probably have to be located, as near as possible to that locality. I am, however, persuaded that the principal Hospital building and Depot for Medical Supplies, should be in Richmond, and that another or branch Hospital so to speak should be established on the Rail Road nearer to Manassas junction. The sick or disabled troops would be in the first instance, carried to the nearest Hospital; and when that is full, or when from other Sanatory Causes patients should be transferred, they can come to Richmond. Richmond would also be most convenient for our troops on the Peninsula and at Norfolk. The principal Depot for supplies should be there, because from that point, they could be more conveniently distributed to the various localities, when needed. I understand these to be your views, and those of Judge Hopkins and Lady and fully concur in their correctness.

It will be most agreeable to me to have your Department so organized, that while you may be assigned to Richmond, in charge of "the Alabama Hospital," in that City you may be authorized likewise to exercise a Superintending Control over any and all branch Hospitals, and have general powers in so directing the whole Enterprise, as to secure the greatest efficiency. Your experience however in the army must have impressed you with the delicacy involved in every suggestion, by State authority, looking to any modification or change in the army regulations by the Confederate Government. There is a jealous watchfulness and an instinctive repugnance to altering things from settled plans of operation. I am not fully apprized as to all the grades & duties of the Medical department, but I had hoped the Surgeon general in view of the liberal and humane provision by Alabama, would have had the generosity if in his power to make such orders or concessions if need be as should enable the State gratefully to realize, to the fullest extent, all their worthy Expectations. As it has been several weeks since you wrote me, and your Status may have been improved, & circumstances as your purpose at an early day to visit Alabama may occur. I hope to have the pleasure of a personal interview

with you. I prefer to adjourn any further communication to the Secretary of War until after your visit home. Upon the propriety of additional compensation, on account of your location in Richmond (when your expenses are largely increased) I have to say that no appropriation was made for salary to the Surgeon, by the Act, and that such compensation will have to be charged out of the appropriation of $30.000, and may properly be so charged, if necessary to effect the end proposed by it.

The General Assembly made an additional appropriation of $1500 to provide a building at Manassas, for the Depot of Supplies for our troops; and measures have been taken to accomplish the object. Recent advices from there report the lumber bought, & I hope soon to hear that the building is completed. It is expected that a guard will be detailed from our Regiments to protect it.

In the selection of a proper person, as an Agent to attend to the receipt and distribution of Medical Stores which may be forwarded from Alabama, I, of course, expect you in Co-operation with Judge Hopkins, to exercise your discretion. Indeed, all the details must necessarily be under your joint and separate administration, which I sincerely trust and believe, will be mutually agreeable, and beneficial to the State.

Please show this letter to him. I have written Judge Hopkins likewise by this mail.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient Servant
(Signed) M. Gill Shorter

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Jany 17th 1862.

Mr Thos. J. Gonnell.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 2d inst. proposing to sell 32 new rifles, I have to say that I will buy the Rifles if delivered here, and are of an inch, or more, in diameter at valuation; Cash; the valuation to be made by the Ordnance Office of the Confederate Government.

Very respectfully,
(Signed) M. Gill Shorter.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. Jan. 18th 1862

Mr Thos. P. Miller, Mobile.

Dear Sir,

I embrace the earliest opportunity to reply to your letter of 13th inst. communicating a Resolution adopted by the Committee of Safety in reference to providing fire ships and boats to meet the vessels of the Enemy in Mobile Bay.

There is no appropriation made by the Genl Assembly, which I am at liberty to apply to such a purpose. The idea did not occur to the Legislature, or provision would, probably, have been made; whatever the Committee of Safety, after deliberate consultation, may deem expedient to be done by them having such large discretionary powers I will be happy to sustain them in, even at the risk of exercising a doubtful power, if the public interest is to be subserved by it. Which you shall have heard from Commodore Hollins, I hope you will communicate, further, his views to me.

Very Respectfully,
Your obt Servt
(Signed) M. Gill Shorter

28

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Executive Department
Montgomery, January 18th, 1862.

Maj. Gen. Thos. H. McCleary, Mobile.

Dear Sir,

The pressure of official duties has prevented an earlier acknowledgement of your letter of the 14th Inst. covering returns for the Division under your command. While in your City - and since my return to the Capitol, I have addressed Special orders to Brigadier Gen. Thos. J. Butler, of the 9th Brigade, - for an immediate - and thorough organization of his Brigade, and with instructions to report directly to this Department. Having been deprived, while in your City, of the pleasure of a personal and free interview with you, upon the subject of our Military Defense, and from a cause unknown to me, until I was advised by yourself, on the Wharf while in the act of leaving Mobile - I deemed that the Public Interest would be most effectually promoted by extending my orders to the Brigadier General with whom I had full intercourse, and to whom I was enabled - unreservedly - to communicate my views - as to the policy to be adopted, to accomplish the object I desired.

It was not in my thoughts to deprive you of the command of the 9th Brigade, and I had no intimation, from any quarter, that, as I had the unquestioned power to address my orders to any Commander of Military Subdivisions, under the first section of the 12th Chapter of the Military Code, that it would be, personally, disagreeable to you, I thought I might do so - in discharge of public duty - even without Comment.

The active movements to perfect the organization of the 9th Brigade - made necessary by the threatening conduct of the Enemy, I also, believed could be expedited by direct Communication between Brigadier Gen. Butler and this Department. The Public Exigency, in my own judgement, commended the Course, and I have not had occasion to change that opinion. If this view of my duty and responsibility does not furnish, in your estimation, a justification of my acts - I have only to express my regrets - that you should feel, in the least, offended, where offense was, by no means, intended.

Should it become necessary to order the Brigade of Gen. Butler into active Service - I shall, certainly, Communicate through you, not intending - or desiring to supersede you in the Command of any portion of your Division.

For the promptness - with which - I am advised, that you extended my orders to the 22d Brigade, accept my thanks.

Very resp'y
Your ob't Serv't
(Signed) Jno. Gill Shorter

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. Jany 20th 1862

Wm. H. Mardonell Esq.
McKinley, Ala.

Dear Sir,

In the midst of the severest pressure of public and official duties, I seize this opportunity to reply to your letter of the 5th Inst. And, in reference to the action taken by by a portion of the Citizens of Marengo - to which you refer, I have only to say that I regret the public manifestation of any dissatisfaction at what the General Assembly may have done - or omitted to do. And I also regret every effort

sition to embark the Legislature in new and untried experiments, affecting the legitimate pursuits of the people. Hard times- money pressures- and individual calamities can be but slightly controlled by the interposition of questionable legislative expedients. It is not the province of the Government to put money into the pockets of the People, so much as to protect it when deposited in the pockets of the People, by their own legitimate labor and Industry. Many of our People talk as though they expected to sustain an army of one half a million, and withdraw the Yankee Nation, and make no sacrifices of time or means. The progress of events is daily adding to our Security- Strength- and certainty of triumph, and all the energies of the State should be devoted to sustaining the Government, & the Army in the field- to hasten- on the glorious day of our deliverance. But some people, in this hour of peril to all we hold most dear seem to have their Patriotism bounded by their own pecuniary Interests; and, instead of nobly offering- up all they have- if need be- to maintain the honor of our Cause, are clamoring at the Government to make them loans or advances- when every dollar the Government can raise, is needed to defend their Homes & fire sides, and all our labors should be devoted, night- and day, to the accomplishment of this purpose.

The Legislature made all necessary appropriations for the Public Defense, and all my energies shall be given to make them available. The "Cotton Scheme", as it was called, which failed in the House, was, in my judgment, a most unwise measure. Had it succeeded, it would have carried- up the indebtedness of the State to over thirteen millions of Dollars, and the present tax- laws of the State would hardly have been sufficient to keep the State machinery in motion- and pay the Interest on the Public Debt. I have not time to explain the matter; but it was most fortunate for the State, that the Scheme failed.

Our People must make sacrifices- and endure privations- until we achieve our independence. If we are not prepared to do this, we do not deserve to be free. Thank God! such is the Spirit of our People, that they will cheerfully peril all for the Sacred Cause in which we are Engaged.

Your obt Servt
(signed) Jno. Gill Shorter.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala, January 24th 1862.

Maj. Gen. Braxton Bragg, Pensacola, Fla.

Sir

I have a few hundred muskets here- now being altered from flint to percussion- a very good arm- smooth bore- with bayonets, which will will be ready for use in a week or two. My predecessor promised them to Col. Watts- for his men, and I am personally, disposed to ship them to Col. Watts, unless you are of opinion that the Public interest will be most subserved by shipping them to Mobile- for the use of the unarmed Troops near that City. I have 100 boxed- and ready for shipment. The direction of these arms shall be controlled by your advice.

Your obedient Servt
(signed) Jno. Gill Shorter.

Executive Department.
Montgomery, Ala. Jan'y 24th 1862.

Hon. Pinckney Hudson— Lamar, Mississippi.

Sir,

Very pressing official duties have prevented an earlier reply to your letter of the 22d Ultimo. Your request—to appoint Delegates to the Planters' Convention, to meet at Memphis, on the 3rd Monday of February—has been complied with by a nomination from this Department of thirty Six delegates to represent the State of Alabama, in Convention. The next mail will convey to you the City-papers, containing the list of Delegates, and the printed Circular address, you did me the honor to enclose to me.

Very respectfully, Your ob't Ser't.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Jan'y 25th 1862

Mr Wm Alley, Tuskegee, Ala.

Sir,

The State of Alabama has a number of public arms-muskets, pistols, and Cavalry-Sabres—Scattered through the Country, which are, now, very much needed. I am, also, desirous of buying good double-barrel Shot-guns of musket Calibre—and Rifles with good Stocks and Locks, with barrels of an inch or over in Diameter—Suitable for boring-out to a uniform Calibre—like the Mississippi rifle.

I will pay you one dollar per gun, for all the public arms, muskets, and Pistols which you may collect in the Counties of Macon—Russell—Chambers—and Tallapoosa; and like Compensation for all the Cavalry-Sabres, with their accoutrements. I will, also, pay you the same Commission for every good double-barrelled Shot-gun—and rifle, you may Purchase for the State, of above-mentioned quality and description, at prices from $8, to $18. The arms to be delivered to Col. W. R. Pickett, A. 2. M. Montgomery, who will pay for them.

I hand you a Commission—giving you authority to collect and buy arms for the State.

Your Ob't Ser't
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Jan'y 29th 1862

To His Excellency, Gov'r of the State of Virginia.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the rec't of your letter of 17th Inst. Communicating a copy of the Resolutions adopted by the General Assembly of Virginia, approving the declaration of sentiments & purpose contained in certain joint Resolutions of the Legislature of the State of Georgia, and affirming & adopting the same; together with a communication addressed by your Excellency to the Legislature of Virginia upon the subject, and requesting me to present the same, for the consideration of the Gen'l Assembly of this State. Cordially approving the Joint Resolutions—and indorsing, heartily, the substance of your Message to the General Assembly of Virginia, it will afford me sincere pleasure to comply with your request—to communicate them to the General Assembly of Alabama, and to ask their most favorable consideration.

Very Resp'y.
Your ob't Serv't.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. Jan. 31st 1862.

To his Excellency, Isham G. Harris, Governor of Tennessee,
Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 14th Ult. enclosing a copy of joint Resolutions adopted by the General Assembly of Tennessee, "to take steps to open the Ports of the South to the Commerce of the World."

I regret that the Resolutions did not reach this Department until after the General Assembly of Alabama had adjourned. If the Emergency contemplated - Continues, I will communicate them at the next Session.

Very respectfully, Your obt Servt.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, Jany 31st 1862.

To his Excellency, Joseph E. Brown, Governor of Georgia,
Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 30th ulto. communicating a copy of "An act to prevent, during the existing war, monopolies, extortions, and speculations in bread-Stuffs and other articles of general use and consumption, and to make such acts criminal and to provide penalties for the same" passed by the General Assembly of Georgia at its recent Session.

I regret that this Communication did not reach this Department, until the Genl Assembly of Alabama had adjourned.

Should the emergency, covered by the Act of the Legislature of Georgia, continue until the re-assembling of the Legislature of Alabama, in December next, I will, with pleasure, Communicate the Act for their Consideration.

Very Resp'y, Your obt Servt.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Jan. 31st 1862.

To his Excellency - Joseph E. Brown, Gov. of Georgia.
Sir;

I regret my inability to reply, at an earlier period, to your letter of 14th ulto. communicating the joint resolutions of the Gen. Assembly of Geo. - approved 11th ult. touching our Confederate relations, and pledging the resources of Geo. to a vigorous prosecution of the War now being waged against the Confederate States, by the United States, until our independence shall have been, unconditionally, acknowledged by the United States: and solemnly affirming that "the State of Georgia will, under no circumstances, entertain any proposition - from any quarter - which may have for its object, a restoration - or re-construction of the late Union on any terms whatever"

I deeply regret that the Gen. Assembly of Alabama closed its Session, a few days before the receipt of this Communication of your Excellency. Could the pleasure of submitting these joint - Resolutions to the Gen. Assembly of Ala. have been afforded me - I am sure that they would have been promptly adopted by that body, and I have the satisfaction to assure your Excellency that the people of this State - with one unanimous heart, will maintain the high position assumed by the State of Georgia. Should our final and complete Triumph - upon the basis of the joint resolutions by the Gen. Assembly of Geo. not have been accomplished by the re-assembling of the Gen. Assembly of Alabama in Dec. next. I will then Communicate the joint - resolutions for their Consideration and adoption.

Very Respectfully, Your obt Servt (Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

32

Executive Department.
Montgomery, Ala. Sept 18th 1862

Mr A. L. Harrison, Lessee of the Alabama Penitentiary,

Sir,

In compliance with the provisions of "an Act for the relief of Insane Convicts," approved December 9th, 1861, the Physician of the Penitentiary reported to this Department, the names of Robert H. Harrison — Robert Lee — Patrick Murphy — and others — as being insane Convicts. Under the provisions of the same Act, Drs James L. Harris, Thomas M. Mason — & M. L. Moore were appointed to examine said Convicts. They have done so — and report Robert H. Harrison — Robert Lee & Patrick Murphy — insane, and fit subjects for the Hospital for Insane persons. You will, therefore, have said Convicts removed to the Hospital for Insane persons, at Tuscaloosa, Ala. See that necessary Safe-guards are provided for their removal. The same Compensation will be allowed for this Service, as for Conveying Convicts to the Penitentiary.

Very Resp'y, Your obt Sert.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Feby 4th 1862.

Hon. J. P. Benjamin,
Secretary of War, Richmond, Va.

Sir.

I have the honor to submit that Capt. R. M. Sands, of 3d Regiment Ala. Vols. claims the right to the position of Lieut. Colonel of the 24th Regiment, 12 months' Ala. Volunteers, against Col. Wm. B. Bennett — who is in possession and enjoyment of the office. The question was referred to Maj. Genl Bragg commanding the Department, who declined to decide it, as you will see from the official Communication of the Adjt-General of that Department, to Capt. Sands, under date of 1st inst, on the ground that the Officers of all 12-months' Regiments were commissioned by the State-authorities, and that the State Executive was, therefore, to determine all questions as to the legality of the elections of the officers of such Regiments.

If the 24th Regiment had been received upon a call, or requisition made upon the State — the reference of Genl Bragg of the question — to the State authorities, might have been correct, but such is not the case. The 24th is what is usually called an Independent Regiment, received into the Confederate service without any formal call upon the State, and thus falling within the "act of Congress, of 12th of May, 1861." to make further provision for the Public defense," the 3d Sect. of which, expressly provides that, "the President shall be authorized to commission all officers entitled to Commissions, of the forces received under the act. The question, here, involving a title to a Commission of a Regiment received under the act referred to — it would seem to follow, necessarily, that the question must be determined by the Confederate — and not the State Authority.

Entertaining this opinion as to the Law, I must decline deciding the question, and submit the same, through your Department, to the President.

I have the Honor to be,
Very Respectfully,
Your obedient Servant.

(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. February 6th 1862

Mr. J. N. Linebaugh, Havannah, Greene Co. Ala.

My Dear Sir,

I have read, with feelings of State-pride, an account of the personal heroism displayed by your Son William H. Linebaugh, a youth of eighteen years of age, and an honored private in the Selma Independent Blues - 8th Alabama Regt, in capturing the Battle-flag of the Enemy, in Skirmish, at New-Market Bridge, on the 22d Dec. last.

Information has reached this Department, that this flag, after it had been presented by the Captor to his Commander-Col Lotin E. Winston, was - by the Colonel - returned to him as a personal trophy, and that your son had sent it home to his beloved father. My dear Sir, I can well imagine with what satisfaction your eyes gazed upon this captured banner, once the Ensign of a great and glorious Union - but now of a Despotism - hateful to Alabama, and fast exciting the Contempt of the Civilized World - which had been torn down and triumphantly borne away by your intrepid Son; but, as the Executive of the State, I beg to notify you that Alabama claims this noble youth as her Son, and, as the banner was captured by him from the Enemy, while in her Service and in her name - Alabama claims the Honor of being made the recipient of this memento of his worth and daring. I have, therefore, respectfully to request that you will surrender the banner to me, that it may be deposited in the State-Capitol, with an appropriate recital illustrative of the gallant act which secured it - to be preserved with other mementos of a sacred and glorious period in the History of Alabama.

With great respect, I am
Your obt Servt
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala: Feb. 7th 1862

Hon. I. A. Hill; Jasper, Walker Co.

My dear Sir,

I embrace the first opportunity - to reply to your patriotic letter of 29th ult. The first reports of the recent - battle in Kentucky; where our troops were outnumbered and defeated, were greatly exaggerated: Our men were surprized, but all - but a few - conducted the fight with great gallantry, - and are preparing and anxious - again to encounter the Enemy - and retrieve the disaster.

God bless and preserve your brave boy! The 16th Ala. Regt is not reported to have been actually engaged in the fight, and I have no doubt your boy is safe and ready to give a good account of himself.

The great battles of the Campaign are yet to be fought. The North are making their most gigantic efforts for our subjugation, but "the race is not always to the swift, nor the battle to the strong" As sure as there is a just God - who controls the destinies of Nations as well as the affairs of men, he will bring us off in the end, victorious over our foes

Our army - however - must be increased - and the vacancies, created by the withdrawal of 12 months troops, must be filled up, promptly, by more troops for the War. I believe our brave men will volunteer in time, but every portion of the State must furnish its proper quota of troops, and of requisitions made upon the State are not duly met, by volunteers, the additional troops must be raised by a draft upon those Regiments which have not furnished their proportion. If they volunteer, they get $50 bounty for their families, but if

they are drafted, they will receive not a dollar for bounty. I am sorry to inform you, that, in case a draft should be ordered, the Western portion of Walker and the whole of Winston County will be among the first included; as it is notorious that they have not furnished any thing like their proportion of Volunteers. I am proud to hear that you purpose to raise a company for the War; and I hope your patriotic efforts will enable you to raise a large & splendid Company - in Walker & Winston, at an Early day.

Very Respectfully,
Yr. obt Servt
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Feby 7th 1862.

Maj. Gen. Brayton Bragg; Head Qrs, Mobile, Ala.

Sir,

I duly received your letter of the 1st. Instant for which am obliged. My regrets at the inefficiency of the altered muskets are great. The plan adopted was one urged by the old Government as stated in a note to this Department by Col. Charles J. Pollard, President of one Rail-road Companies here, in whose shops the larger number of the arms was changed. A Copy of his note is, herewith enclosed - To which I beg to call your attention.

I have also rec'd your letter of the 4th inst. containing the Report made by Capt. Gladowski who tested the arms. A Copy of this Report I have furnished to Col. Pollard.

Allow me to express my gratification at the important changes made & contemplated in the organization of the Forces near Mobile. It will afford me pleasure, hereafter, to communicate through you directly, upon all matters connected with the military defence of the Gulf-Coast. I am in hopes that the military Spirit of our people may be made to contribute other available Companies of Volunteers in the City of Mobile. I am pressing for two or more Regiments there, and a Battalion of Artillery — if you can furnish the Guns.

Very Resp'y - Your obt Servt,
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. Feby 7th 1862.

Capt. John Forsyth, Mobile.

Sir,

Your dispatch of the 5th came while I was absent in Chambers Co- mustering a Cavalry Battalion for Tennessee. I have sent by this mail an order to Gen'l D. C. Greene, to issue Uniforms to your Company - on your Commutation Contract; money to be paid from allowances to be made for future Service;

Very Respectfully,
Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) Jno. Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Feby 3d 1862.

To Hon. R. H. Clough, Mayor of Mobile.
Sir

In view of the increasing necessity to prepare - by every means in our power - to repel any attack which may be made against the State - and its cherished Sea - port city - I deem it of vast importance to encourage the organization of Volunteer Companies - and a thorough drilling of the Militia in the City of Mobile. To more - effectually secure this object, I respectfully, and earnestly, request the City authorities to appeal to all the Mercantile houses - and Retail - Shops, of every kind and description, to close up their respective establishments by three o'clock, in the afternoon of each day. Such a general suspension of in - door Employments will afford time and opportunity, and, also, serve as a Daily admonition and invitation to the Citizens, to cultivate and practice the arts of War. This we must all do, if we are a wise People.

I know, that the ardent patriot will - cheerfully & promptly - rebound to such a recommendation as is here made; while the cold - blooded, avaricious Speculator - who would line his pockets by gains — wrung from the distresses of his Country - will cry - out against it - and even allege some cunningly - devised - and plausible pretext for his refusal. But let the appeal be made - and then let the names of such, as may refuse this boon to their Country, be published to the World, so that every true Patriot may know & shun such — Monsters

Very Respectfully, Your obt Servt.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Feb. 10th 1862.

Bolivar Eason Esq. Talladega Ala
Dear Sir.

I am in receipt of your letters of the 4th, 5th & 7th inst. I will take the rifles - proposed to be manufactured by Mr Dan[l] Wallis, at $. 25[c] each, to be paid for in State or Confederate Bonds. The size and bore to be the same as that of the Mississippi Rifle. The guns to be delivered within the time stated in his letter, and subject to your inspection and approval. You are authorised to Contract with Mr Wallis accordingly.

Shot - guns - of Calibres - 12 - 13 - 14 - & 15 will be received also rifles - both flint and percussion, but the flint should not have Rifle - barrels $\frac{15}{16}$ of an inch, at the top, and one inch in diameter at the breech, will answer.

All public arms belong to the State - rifles, muskets &c. Demand - and get them, and have them shipped to Col Pickett as Rapidly as Possible.

Very Respectfully.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter

Executive Department
Montgomery Ala. Jany 28. 1862

Hon Jno M. Newton
Butler. Choctaw Co.

Dear Sir.

At that time since I had the pleasure to send you a commission to the vacancy of Probate Judge in Choctaw County, I hope you have qualified and entered upon the duties of your office.

I have to day been pained, and deeply mortified at the contents of a letter received by the State Comptroller from the late Judge of Probate, by his clerk Mr Seale. All of such a character as to demand my immediate notice, and I have enclosed a copy of it herewith, and a letter addressed by me to the Court of County Commissioners of Choctaw County, and I have to urge upon you by every consideration of public duty, to call the Court of County Commissioners together at the earliest possible day, and lay my communication before them I have retained a copy of that communication, and of this letter

Very respectfully
Yr obt Servt
(Signed) Jno. Gill Shorter

Executive Department
Montgomery Jany 28. 1862

To the Court of County Commissioners
of Choctaw County Alabama

Gentlemen

I take the liberty by the permission of Col W. J. Greene, the State Comptroller of Public Accounts to enclose you herewith a copy of a letter addressed to him on the 17th inst by Mr B. F. Seale, Clerk of the Probate Court of your County, writing for, and in behalf of Hon Joshua Monk, late Judge of Probate. And I beg to say that I am not prepared to believe that the Citizens of Choctaw County will assume the attitude to=ward their State, and our glorious Southern Confederacy, assigned them by this letter of Mr Seale, I hope and believe that Mr Seale is honestly mistaken, for I am confident that there are no people throughout the Confederate States, more loyal to the Government, and none who more dearly value their liberties, than the people of our own beloved Alabama, and I have had no reason to doubt that the people of Choctaw County are less devoted to their State, or less disposed to maintain our gallant armies in the field, in resistance to the cruel and unholy war now waged by the abo=litionists Cohorts of Abraham Lincoln, than those of any other County in Alabama, But if the statement of Mr Seale be true, then the people of Choctaw County will occupy that unenviable position, not only in, but far worse than that, for when the pen of the truthful historian shall account our sacrifices upon our country's altar to main=tain the inheritance of freemen bequeathed to us by our fathers, and sealed with their life's blood, that pen will write down, to be read by posterity

with shame and contempt, that there was one County in the proud State of Alabama, whose people, in the hottest of the campaign, and while our brave troops were shivering amid the snows of winter, and baring their brave breasts to the guns of the enemy, ignominiously deserted their State, refused to contribute even the pitiful tax needed to carry on their State government, and quietly folded their arms for a tame and cowardly submission to their Northern masters! Great God, Can this be so? No! Gentlemen, no! never! There is nothing valuable, nothing great or good in this life to be achieved without toil, privation, sacrifice! Liberty has its price, that price is not only eternal vigilance, but it is treasure and blood, and life itself. And a people who do not value liberty beyond all these, do not deserve to be free,

Mr Seales idea is that no responsible man in Choctaw County will undertake the office of Tax Collector for fear of public condemnation, because the people will have to make sacrifices in order to pay their taxes, When did a people ever prize liberty wonderful discovery! When were taxes ever paid without sacrifices? When did a people ever win glorious liberty and independence without the expenditure of treasure, and the spilling of the hearts blood! And are not the people of Choctaw willing to do this,? Are they prepared to withhold their sacrifices, and calmly look on and see the other Counties in Alabama pour their gifts into the treasury to preserve and perpetuate their birthright, and they accept the benefit? I don't believe it, And yet this letter is official, and remains upon the files of the Executive Department. For the honor of Choctaw County, for her future good name, I beg that you will ask leave to withdraw the letter, and not permit the archives of your State to be disgraced by a record which casts such a cloud of suspicion over the fair name, and loyalty of your people. I have the honor to know some of them personally and well, and I am sure no truer, no nobler patriots are to be found in Alabama, or Elsewhere,

We means to preserve your State organization We means to feed and clothe your intrepid soldiery, We means to provide for their helpless families, while they are far away upon the battle field, and the means of doing [illegible] to the rising Generation of the State, are dependant upon the taxes levied upon the property of the State, And shall the Demagogue be allowed to say that he will not supply his contribution, and the people ought not to be called upon to pay now because the infernal Yankees have blockaded our ports, and we have to dispose of a horse, or a few bags of cotton, or something else at less than remunerating prices in order to pay our taxes,? No! Gentlemen, sacrifice anything, — horses, cattle, cotton bags. Lands and houses. Everything of property, and life besides, if need be, to maintain the honor of our cause.

For the convenience of the people, the General Assembly wisely postponed until the first day of May, the day of settlement for the tax Collectors of the State, A large portion of the taxes have been already collected in some of the Counties, and in all others, the tax collectors are proceeding with their duties, If the office is vacant in the

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County of Choctaw you owe it to your County, You owe it to your State, to assemble forthwith and appoint some one to fill the vacancy, some reliable honest patriot who will fearlessly do his duty, despite the senseless clamors of demagogues and traitors who would see their Country's honor and liberties perish rather than make a sacrifice of their accursed gold in order to prevent it. And the Session of your Court, when assembled, should never adjourn until you had secured such an honest & faithful officer, and put him to labor in his patriotic work

Hoping to hear from you at an early day in reply to this communication. I am Gentlemen

Very respectfully
Your obdt Servt

(Signed) Jno. Gill Shorter

Executive Department
Montgomery Ala Jany 28 1862

To
Dr Jas. C. Adams
" Thos. M. Mason
" M. S. Moore
Physicians

Gentlemen

I am in receipt of your communication of the 21st inst. enclosing your report upon the cases of insanity, certified to this Department by Dr Thos. M. Mason, Physician of the Penitentiary, & which you were appointed to examine among the prisoners in the State prison. Your account rendered for $150. is also received & filed. As no appropriation was made by the General Assembly to pay for the services of Physicians in such cases, & as the amount of Compensation has not been fixed by law & the basis of settlement, with you will become a rule, I think it proper to refer your account to the consideration of the General Assembly

Very Respectfully
Your obdt Servt
(Signed) Jas. Gill Shorter
Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. Feb 5th 1862

Hon. A. B. Speed, Bridgeville, Pickens Co. Ala

Dear Sir, Your letter of 2) th ult. came duly to hand covering the proceedings of a public meeting held in Carrollton, on the 4th ult. in relation to the "Stay-law" and the monetary condition of the Country. I had previously received the proceedings of a similar meeting in the County of Choctaw and had replied to the same, through the Columns of the Montgomery Advertiser & Gazette, and beg, hereunto, to communicate to you a copy of that letter.

Very respy
Your obt Servt

(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter

Military Circular.

39

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. Jan. 30th, 1862

To all the Commissioned officers of the Militia of the State of Alabama.

Deeming it my imperative duty, in the present conjuncture of affairs, thoroughly to organize, arm & discipline the Militia of the State, I invoke your hearty & prompt Co-operation.

Three thousand copies of the Revised Military Code have just been printed, and will be promptly forwarded to the Judges of Probate in every County in the State, for immediate distribution. This publication contains the Military Law of the State, and you are expected to make yourselves familiar with its entire provisions.

Owing to various Causes, many of the military offices in the State are without incumbents; and, in some instances, elections ordered have not been held, because the persons whose duty it was to conduct them criminally omitted its performance - or because there was no competition for the office.

The remedy for Criminal default is in your own hand. Sect. 2d of Chapt. 4th Military Code, provides that "The elections of Major-Generals, Brigadier-Generals, Colonels, Lieut-Colonels, and Majors, shall be held at the same places, within their proper Districts, and be subject to the same rules, regulations, and restrictions, as are now or may hereafter be prescribed, by law, for holding or conducting Elections for members of the General Assembly of this State.

The Rules and Regulations prescribed by law for conducting Elections for Members of the Gen^l Assembly, are found in the Code of Alabama, on pages 94 to 104, inclusive

The latter clause of Section 3d of 4th Chapter of Military Code, directs the mode of Election for Company-Officers. The omission of Duties therein prescribed should be punished by Courts-Martial. Vacancies however in Company-offices, may, at all times, be filled, as directed in Sect. 12th of Chapt 4th of Military Code. And, in all cases, when Elections have been ordered, and duly advertised, and no one offers for the Command, promotion is made for filling the Vacancy, by Sect. 13th in the same Chapter.

The Ordinance of the State-Convention, adopted Jan. 23rd 1861, which annulled all Military Commissions in the Militia of the State, expressly provided, that "officers then holding Commissions should not be deprived of their Commands, until a new Election should be held, and their successors appointed & qualified" It is not sufficient, merely, that there should be an appointment or an Election or even a Comission - but the person appointed or Elected must be qualified; that is, he must take the Oath of Office as directed in Sect 16th - Chapt 4th of the Military Code. No officer - Civil or Military - can be permitted to assume his trust, until he is thus qualified

It follows - that all officers in Command, on the 23d Jan. 1861, who have not otherwise vacated their Commands, are still in office, unless they have been superseded by the election and qualification of others; and all such officers are expected to discharge their respective duties, until they are legally superseded.

The Lincoln Despotism is now making its most gigantic struggle for our subjugation. Their ironclads are closing in upon our frontiers, while their fleets and flotillas are swarming upon our Coasts. The Confederate States must rely upon their own unaided Powers. These, with the blessing of God, shall, in due time, bring us deliverance.

There are, in Alabama alone, One Hundred and Six Thousand militia, between the ages of 18 & 45, by their enumeration; there are, to-day, within the limits of this State, subject to Constitutional and the orders of the Commander-in-chief, as fine and brave soldiers as the world can furnish. This force, American

shall be organized and held ready, in the last resort, to defend our altars and our firesides. I appeal to your love of Country! to your devotion to Liberty! and to your detestation of tyranny! to aid me in this arduous undertaking; and I believe that I shall not be disappointed. Let the Military orders emanating from this Department be obeyed with alacrity and cheerfulness by you; and let the tardy delinquents and captious Croakers be visited with the severe penalties of the Law. Let the Drill and Parade, and the trainings of Citizen-Soldiers be seen in every County & beat, and let the Music of the "Spirit-Stirring drum & fife", and the tramp of brave men be heard in every nook & corner of Alabama. Let our People study & practice the Science of War, and never, for a day abandon its pursuit, until our Independence shall have been achieved.

The Hon. W. O. Pickett, of Lawrence, who was elected by the Genl assembly, at its last Session, to the Office of Adjt Genl & Inspector Genl of the Militia of the State, has resigned. Genl Hugh P. Watson, of the City of Montgomery, has patriotically accepted the appointment, by this Department, to fill the vacancy, and all Communications upon the Militia-organization of the State must be addressed to him. A diligent examination and thorough understanding of the Military Code is absolutely essential to each one of you, and will dispense with the necessity of a multiplicity of letters to the Adjutant Genl who will not be expected to reply to Enquiries, which are sufficiently answered in the Military Code.

With the assurance of my Cordial Co-operation, and earnest support of all your Efforts to infuse vigor & efficiency into the Military organization of the State, and my fixed purpose to promote such a desirable result by every means at my command,

I am, your fellow-Citizen

(Signed) Jn° Gill Shorter.

Letter from Governor Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Aug 10th 1862.

Ann. C. G. Memminger,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir,

I have just received a requisition from the Secretary of War, on the State of Alabama for twelve new Regiments to be enlisted for the War. The Government promises to pay a bounty of $50 to every Soldier when his Company is mustered into Service. I shall establish a number of Camps of instruction, where the companies will be ordered to rendezvous, within the State. And now, my dear Sir, allow me to say that it is a matter of first importance to have the bounty money provided, and ready to be promptly paid. If there be a failure here, it will not be, most disastrously to the cause. It is related to me the poor Volunteer, who had told his wife & mother, on Leaving, that he will send back to her, the $50 bounty, on his arrival at Camp - that the Government has not the money to pay his bounty! The Government must keep its word, in this matter, at all hazards. I cannot give my cordial assurance to the people of this State and to this Bureau, in the absence of an arrangement which shall place the matter beyond all difficulty or doubt. It can easily be done, by correspondence, the day of session, or Commissioners for the Seaton Regt - Or a Resolution, declaring the Faith & Credit of Alabama, or

Montgomery, as your disbursing agent. This Bank is controlled by able financiers - and Patriotic men, who have already done a great deal for the Government and the army. Large advances have been made, by this Bank, to the Government Paymasters, to supply deficiencies; but in such large transactions, it is but just that the Bank should have the responsibility of the Government to stand upon, and not that merely of its Agents. If you will adopt or secure the Bank as a disbursing Agent, and give an order to maj. J. S. Calhoun ass't Dr. master here, to check for bounty money, if needed, I shall then, feel satisfied, & know that every thing will work well in this particular, and will also be able to get the Volunteer regiments, with far greater certainty and despatch. And most Earnestly hoping that this important suggestion may receive your immediate attention,

I am, with high regards,
Your obt Sert
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Letter from Gov^r Shorter, to Hon. J. J. Foster,
Butler, Choctaw County, Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. Feb 1st 1862.

Hon. J. J. Foster, Butler, Choctaw Co. Ala.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge rec't of your letter, communicating a copy of certain Resolutions adopted by a County meeting of the Citizens of Choctaw County, at Butler, on the 20th ultimo. The reported proceedings of the meeting disclose that Col. Wm. H. Ward, Hon. Wm Woodward and Yourself, were appointed a Committee to forward a Copy of its proceedings & resolution to this office, and to the Editors of the Montgomery Advertiser. As no official Communication from the Committee has been received, and as you are pleased to say, in your letter to me, "after you have given the Resolutions of a meeting of the citizens of Choctaw County at Butler, due Consideration, please send them to the Advertiser of your city for Publication", I presume I am to understand that your communication was intended to be official, and that I am expected to intimate my views upon the matters covered by the Resolutions. Though thus informally presented, and though heavily pressed by the various duties of this Department, I will, hurriedly, discuss the Resolutions. Communicated with that candor & frankness - due to the occasion - as well as to the people of Choctaw County. This, they have a right to Expect at my hands, for the "declaration of rights" embodied in the Constitution of the State of Alabama, expressly recites that "the Citizens have a right, in a peaceable manner, to assemble together - for their Common good, & to apply to those invested with the powers of Government, for redress of grievances, or other purposes, by petition, address, or remonstrance."

The Resolutions before me, express dissatisfaction - first with the "Stay-law" adopted by the Legislature, not because it goes too far, but because it does not go far enough in the opinion of the meeting - Inasmuch affording relief - in the present Crisis, each one of the Resolutions recommends a "Constitutional Stay-law as near as practicable to the Stay-law of Mississippi."

2dly. The resolutions do not favor the collection of the State taxes assessed for the first year, and suggest as a measure of relief, the issuance of Treasury notes, by the State, in payment of its liabilities, which Treasury notes shall be redeemed by taxes to be collected at some future time

42

As these recommendations can be made available, only by legal enactment through the Legislative body - an appeal is made to me, as the Executive of the State, to call the Legislature into Extraordinary session, and to recommend these measures of proposed relief for its adoption.

After mature & calm deliberation, I am constrained to inform those Citizens of Choctaw County, who adopted these resolutions, that, in view of the vast interests, now at Stake, I cannot convene the Legislature of Alabama in an extraordinary Session, for the purposes contemplated by their resolutions.

Were I to comply with their recommendation, the order would call back to the Capitol, the Same Senate - and the Same House of Representatives, which Composed the last Gen[l] assembly. The "Stay-law" Complained of was the only one - after much difficulty - and Conflict of opinions, which could be adopted by that body. The proposition to post-pone the collection of the State-Taxes, and to supply their deficiency by Loans or Treasury-Notes, was diligently urged and defeated. What guarantee have we that the Same Senate & the Same House of Representatives would reverse their action upon these important measures, which received such full Consideration at their hands? The people of the State might justly question at a time like the present, when we should economize the public expenditure, the propriety of an extra-Session for the mere purpose of a re-consideration of measures by the Same General assembly - which had devoted great labor, & attention to them, While the two Houses themselves would have reason to reproach the Executive for such an assumption of authority, and such an exhibition of Vanity as would be involved in the idea, that his recommendation merely - would cause them to retrace their Steps, and adopt measures which they had deliberately condemned.

I owe it however to the people of Choctaw County, and I owe it to my own high conviction of duty to Alabama to say to you, that approving most Cordially the general measures of Legislation adopted by the last Session of the General Assembly - & knowing the absolute necessity which Constrained their refusal to post-pone the collection of the Public dues, I could not recommend the measures proposed - even if the Legislature Should be convened in an extraordinary Session. On the Contrary, I am Confident that the adoption of Such measures would be fraught with lasting injury to the future credit & welfare of the State.

The "Stay-Law" passed by the Legislature, though, by no means, perfect in its provisions, and though amenable to objections, which have been urged against it, is not believed to be within the Constitutional limitations of the Legislative Power. I have not seen the "Stay-law of Mississippi" - but if the law closes the Court-room against the Citizen, and denies all remedy for the assertion of his legal rights, as it had been represented to us, it is clear to my mind that such a law is unconstitutional, and without the limit of the Legislative Power.

In times of public calamity, it is quite common to talk of Legislative relief to the people; forgetting that the Government is the mere machine of the People; that it derives all its powers from them; is fed by their bounty, and dependent upon them alone, for its Continued existence; many, with misguided views, appeal to it for nourishment & support. And, to-day, when the State of Alabama and her sister Confederate States are engaged in a death-struggle for their National Existency the strange and Sad Spectacle is seen, of persons, far-away from the clangor of arms, and amid the quiet retreat of their homes, clamoring for aid from the public treasury, where every dollar of our Command, and the utmost energies of our Resources should be consecrated to the glorious Cause of our deliverance and Liberty.

The proposition to suspend the collection of our State-taxes, and to meet the liabilities of the State, by the issuances of Treasury-notes, however plausible it may appear on its face, is submitted- I am quite sure, without that full and accurate information, as to the character and extent of our State-liabilities, which is essential to be had in order to obtain a clear comprehension of the subject.

The Comptroller of Public accounts, in his last Biennial report to the General assembly, on the 30th of September 1861, says; "In making up the usual estimates for the ensuing fiscal year, I find that the probable amount to be received from all sources- whence Revenue is derivable, will be $874.950; and that the probable disbursements, for the same time on account of the Civil List will amount to $789.104; leaving an excess of receipts over disbursements of $85.846; exclusive of the balance now in the Treasury. This estimate of the probable disbursements embraces only the ordinary expenses of the State-Government, including interest to accrue (and which must be provided for during the fiscal year) on the entire amount of the present State-debt; Amounts appropriated for Educational purposes; balances of unpaid-Special appropriations, and loan of $100 000- obtained from the Central Bank.

To meet so much of the above sum of $789.104- estimate of probable amount of disbursements- on account of the Civil List for the Fiscal year- ending 30th Sept. 1862- as shall be required for Educational purposes- and to defray the ordinary expenses of our State administration, the Legislature might force the acceptance of Treasury-Notes, but the interest upon the Bonded Debt of the State foreign and Domestic- embraced in the Comptrollers estimate, together with the interest upon new loans- contracted since, and others yet to be made, to pay appropriations for the military defense of the State, and the interest upon the Confederate War-Tax, which will accrue upon the loans soon to be made for that amount- more of which is embraced in the Estimate of the Comptroller- and all of which must be provided for out of the Civil List- will amount, in the aggregate, to nearly $500.000. This amount, which will be due to the Creditors of the State who hold her Coupon Bonds, for the prompt payment of which the honor of the State is pledged, can be liquidated only by such Currency as these Creditors will accept. The State, being the debtor, cannot dictate the mode in which she will cancel these obligations, and it not to be presumed that her Creditors will accept an exchange of her own paper securities in payment of the Debts of the State. It would be a humiliation indeed to the proud State of Alabama, if, by unwise legislation, she should be driven to submit such a proposition to her Creditors. No State on the American Continent has been more careful of her good name, and not one, this day- whose bond stands- deservedly- higher- in the Markets of the World- than Alabama. Her pledged faith has been sacredly guarded by her devoted Sons; and I trust, in God, that they may live never see the day of her repudiation, & Shame! No! Sir, they will sacrifice all that they "have & are", before they will suffer such a Calamity to befall her.

to end of 11th

In this Connection, allow me- briefly- to present a condensed Statement of our State- indebtedness- this day;

Foreign Debt- on interest	3.445.000.
Domestic Debt- on interest	3.521.000.
Total- This day.	6.966.000
Add probable amount of Confederate War-Tax- assumed by the State and to be raised by taxes	2.000.000.
Add unexpended appropriations, for military defence- to be raised by loans	1.500.000.
Total Amount	10.466.000.

44

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We face these figures staring us in the face and in view of our imperative duty to devote our entire resources to a vigorous defense against the deadly foe, now being waged for our destruction, by the crazy abolition-rule of the north. Safe if it would not be unwise if it would not be impracticable — aye more, if it would not be disastrous to embark the State of Alabama in new and untried, magnificent schemes of State-banking — of State-financiering. State-printing notes amounting to millions — letting it over the railroads and cotton-bags from one extremity of the State to the other?

I observe, in the proceedings of another meeting, held in the County of Choctaw, on the 5th inst., and which have been forwarded to me, a resolution recommending a called session of the Legislature, for the purpose of adopting "some policy by which the people may have circulation based upon the cotton", and suggesting "a general banking law for the State, with sufficient guarantees on property and cotton to protect the bill-holders — that the planters may have, in every county in the State, a Bank from which may be issued $20. a bale on so much of our cotton, as the people may wish thus to hypothecate." I am persuaded, that such a reckless and visionary scheme, however honestly entertained by some, would bring disaster and ruin upon the State. An advance of $20 per bale upon the cotton-crop of Alabama would require not less than $16.000.000! The State liabilities I have already shown may reach during the present fiscal year, the sum of $10.456.000! An advance by way of accommodation to the cotton-planter, as proposed, might therefore, run up the State indebtedness to over $20.000.000! But is the State to discriminate alone in favor of the cotton-planter? Will she be guilty of such partiality as to deny relief to the farmer who raises no cotton — the corn & wheat grower, the stock-raiser, the mechanic, the printer — the rattle of whose press has been silenced, the school teacher, the honest merchant, whose debts have been suspended, and who has not polluted his fingers with gains by extortion, and all the various classes of our people, who are, alike, equally devoted to the State, and thousands of whom are now fighting the battles of the Confederacy, while others — snugly housed at home, are concocting schemes for relief out of a common treasury fund in which these brave warriors are to have no part nor lot.

Filed 12th

The advocates of this cotton-scheme, however, seem to have overlooked the impossibility of resting it upon any solid basis, and of so adjusting its machinery, as to safely accomplish their own views — and protect the State against immense losses, which, in the end, all the people, whether they have participated in the profits of the advances or not, will have to make good by many long years of taxation. The History of our exploded State-bank system, and of the relief-schemes — made fifteen by the Legislature in 1837 — furnishes a solemn warning against the repetition of such mischievous projects.

Besides, it is manifestly true that while a few hundred thousand of Treasury-notes might be circulated at their par-value, the issue of sixteen millions of State-notes by the State would cause the notes to depreciate, and find discreditors on every hand. Even the very cotton which would secure them would be needed by the people to buy clothing, meat, bacon, clothing — medicines &c. The merchant's notes would not circulate, as payment, would be refused to receive them, for the reason that the amount of money which could be realized on the cotton in the State, would not be sufficient to meet the indebtedness of the merchants. The debts would remain unpaid, & the merchants' notes of the Confederate States constitute a capital currency, free from all of the different States, by an enactment

[illegible] each other, to adjust their balances by the rule of the Confederate treasury notes, have secured a free circulation for their own issues, out-of- as well as in the State.

I am pleased that it is not the duty of the State Treasurer to sit in judgment upon the validity of the various claims filed for payment, but that the law requires him, and the Governor to issue warrants for them, without regard to the merits of the claim. Many of these claims are for services rendered in the interest of the State, and for moneys actually paid out for the benefit of the State, and should be promptly paid. Many of them are for moneys paid out for the benefit of the State, and should be promptly paid. Many of them are for moneys paid out for the benefit of the State, and should be promptly paid.

In conclusion, I have to say that the present necessity of Alabama requires nothing more than to refuse to postpone the collection of our State taxes.

The twenty-five per cent levied on the State assessment amounting to about $200,000, for the laudable purpose of providing substantial relief for needy families of soldiers, can be realized in no other way than by a prompt collection of the taxes. And can there be one man found within the broad limits of Alabama, who is not ready to respond to such a claim upon his purse? God help the miserable wretch, if such there be!

Yes Sir- the State necessities require that all the taxes shall be collected- and speedily collected. The money is needed for the education of our children, as well as for the support of the indigent families of our gallant Volunteers, who, far away from home and loved-ones are bearing their brave hearts to the guns of the Enemy; it is needed to keep the wheels of our State- Government in motion, and to sustain its various departments in their appointed orbits, the more effectually to protect the life- liberty- & property of the Citizen; and it is needed, beyond all other considerations, at this perilous hour, to maintain the plighted honor of this great State, and to enable her to stand all the world over and will for the achievement of the independence of the United States of America. The Cotton-States were the first to throw off the Yoke of Northern despotism. Their people cheerfully consented to endure the hateful burden; and now, when the Storm of battle rages, while the Enemy are gathering around our own hearth-stones, shall we coolly hesitate, and count the cost and sacrifice needed to meet the ordinary taxes of our State-administration? They are but little more than in former years, and Cotton & other produce still commands prices, even beyond those we have often been pleased to accept in the past. It is not the pressure of taxation that brings disquietude and discontent- it is not outcry for Legislative interposition. It is the unnatural & barbarous war that the Lincoln usurpation has imposed upon us. But though disasters may befall us, and though seas of blood must flow in the mighty struggle, we shall, with the blessing of God, live to be free. The sun-light is gleaming on the distant hills, and, in due time, we shall enjoy its radiant splendor.

The gross assessment for the County of Lowndes is $12,506.23. and, by the last census, it appears that the annual sum of nine- ty three cents per capita of the total population in the County, will pay the whole amount. There is not an able-bodied man, in the State, who cannot pay the average tax on $1000 worth of property, by five days' work- at fifty cents per day- or by the sale of six bushels of corn, in the present currency! A large number of our people more- or less, are not even engaged in Agriculture and necessarily pay no part of the direct taxes. Much of the assessment is already collected, in the various Counties, in others the public officers are proceeding with commendable zeal in the discharge of their duties. I trust, in all, it is to the pride of the honor of the State, that no Authority will be required to [illegible] this end of their County.

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46

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, Feb 13th 1862

Lt. A. Sherrill Jr. Aide Huntsville, ✓

Dear Sir,

Herewith, I send you a certificate of Deposit for Five Hundred and Eighty Eight dollars & fifty Cents ($588.50/100) to be used in paying for arms purchased by Agents in North-Alabama County, and deposited with you. Please acknowledge receipt of the Certificate, to Lt. J. Morgan, to be filed with the Treasurer.

Very respectfully.

(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, Feby 12th 1862.

Lt. L. C. Garland, Jr. Huntsville, ✓

Dear Sir,

I take the liberty of enclosing you a blank Commission, and letter of instructions, and must ask you to do me the favor to insert the names of some suitable person, as Agent to collect and purchase arms, in Huntsville County, for the State. The enemy is upon our borders; we need arms, and it is important that active energetic men should be selected, who will enter upon the duties of the agency — collect all the public arms — and purchase all that can be had, coming within the letter of instructions, and deposit them — with as little delay as possible, with the Quarter-Master of the University. When the blanks are filled, be so good as to hand the Commission & letter to the person, whose name is inserted, and send the name & address of the Agent to this Department. Enclosed, I send you, also, a certificate of Deposit for Five hundred dollars, to be used, by the Quarter-master of the University, in buying arms, purchased by the Agent — and deposited with him; you will place it at his disposal, for that purpose. Your early attention to this matter will greatly oblige.

Very respectfully,
Your obt. servt.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

P.S. Please acknowledge receipt of Certificate of Deposit to Lt. J. Morgan, to be filed with the Treasurer.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, Feb 13th 1862.

Wm. Hamilton, Esq.
My dear Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your valuable communication of the 11th inst. touching the Water-defenses of Mobile, for which accept my thanks. The paper is so valuable in its suggestions and details, that I deem it needful, for the public Defense, to enclose it to Maj. Gen. Bragg, who is now at Mobile; and I hope you will pardon me for the liberty thus taken.

Come, dear Sir,
With great respect
Your obt. Serv.
(Signed) John Gill Shorter.

45

47

Executive Department
Montgomery Alabama, Nov. 13th 1862.

My dear General Bragg,

I enclose you a communication which it seems to me, may contain some valuable suggestions, and make in the occasion for introducing, to your favorable notice, its author Mr Peter Hamilton, a gentleman, whose talents, accuracy, and prudence you will appreciate on a very short interview. He is, I think thoroughly posted, and has conveyed, to my mind, a clearer idea of the approaches to Mobile, and the defenses, than any one I have yet conversed with. He is deservedly held in high estimation by every one who knows him well, and there is not a man in Mobile, whose intelligence & moral worth more fully deserves your confidence, in any and every matter which can be of the slightest service to yourself or the Country.

It is just [illegible] that I should add, that I write without the knowledge of Mr Hamilton; or the solicitation of any of his friends.

Very truly
Yr obt Servt
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, Nov 11th 1862.

Col Alexander McKinstry, Mobile

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter of this date, I have the pleasure to inform you, that, I will locate a Camp of instruction in the City of Mobile, for one of the new Regiments recently called for by the President; and as you have authority from the Secretary of War, to muster men into the Confederate Service, I hereby, tender to you an appointment as Special Aid-de-Camp to Command the Encampment, until the Regiment shall have been organized.

Very Respy
Yr obt Servt
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, Nov 12th 1862.

Maj. Genl Braxton Bragg. Mobile.

My dear General

The recent successes of the Enemy on the Tennessee coupled with the apprehensions of a successful movement on Mobile, have naturally produced a high degree of excitement in our river Counties. I do not think that, up to this time, the people have properly appreciated the power resources or malice of our adversaries: but I believe and am happy to be able to say it, that Dallas Marengo Lowndes & Montgomery Counties and I trust the people of our whole State are aroused to the necessity of the most active energetic and immediate measures for their own security. A public meeting was held, in this City, last night, and, in compliance with a resolution to that effect, I have appointed A. B. Bethea, Edmund Harrison, & C. Robinson gentlemen of deserved position & influence to confer with you as to the propriety of such precautionary measures which if possible, with the means at your command, will be effectual to secure the interior against every contingency, either by obstructing our rivers, or the landings of depredators, at such points as you may deem most advisable. As the present state of the public mind, every man of slave laborers for thousands if need be, can be furnished promptly, and subsistence competent to control & evade the slaves, as well as to perfect their instruction, under the direction of competent Military or Civil engineers can be supplied at the shortest notice. The gentlemen I have named are fully authorized to represent me in this correspondence and to make such means as they may deem expedient to obtain the above mentioned measures, which may be required to effect the purposes of this letter.

Most Respectfully and [illegible] Jno Gill Shorter

48

46

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, Feby 13th 1862

Hon. J. P. Benjamin, Secy of War, Richmond, Va.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 2d inst. making a requisition on this State, for 12 Regiments — to serve for three years — or during the War, but have not up to this time been able to obtain a copy of the Act to the title of which you refer — and, under which, the requisition is made.

I understand, however, from the Tenor of yours, that the Troops can be mustered into Service by Companies only, and subsisted only from the time they are mustered in. If I am correct in this, I feel it my duty to state to you, With perfect frankness, that I am satisfied that the requisition cannot be filled by the time you prescribe, if, indeed, it can be filled at all. The Volunteers do not consider themselves bound, until mustered in; and it is all important that this should be done as early as possible. If they could be mustered in in Squads of not less than Ten; or twenty — as fast as that number arrived at the Camp which might be designated, and on condition, that, if the requisite number was not obtained within a fixed day, to complete the Company to which they were to be attached, they should be distributed into other Companies, which had not the maximum number; or formed, with other Squads, into new Companies.

This course was successfully tried in the late requisition, made upon this State, by Genl A. S. Johnston. If it can be allowed in the present instance, I would urge, that the authority — as to musterings in both Companies and Squads — as well as the distribution of the latter as proposed, or their organization into Companies, be delegated to the State Executive. It costs the Confederacy nothing, and I venture the assertion, that my Aids-de-Camp — or the officers I should detail to discharge this duty, would perform it correctly — and with as much celerity, as the Confederate officers. As to subsistence, I would, respectfully suggest, that as soon as a certain number of Volunteers arrive, and are mustered in, either as Companies or Squads, upon the conditions above specified, they should be subsisted from that time. The aspirant officers & their friends cannot subsist their men, from the time they commence recruiting, until the number requisite to complete the Company is obtained. I speak within bounds, when I say that Thousands have been lost to the Service, from this cause alone. What I propose — is simply this; as fast as Volunteers arrive at the Camps, I would muster them in by Companies or Squads — the latter signing an printed, engagement with the proper Conditions. They should receive, from that time, Subsistence and other details can

be added, which your own practical experience & judgement will, if necessary, readily suggest.

In relation to the payment of the bounty-money, I would beg leave to suggest, that it would contribute much to the success of the requisition, if it could give my personal & official assurances, that its payment would be punctually made. The Volunteers as a class, can seldom appreciate the difficulties in this direction, and any delay in making the payment would operate injuriously, by its effect upon the Zeal and Spirit of our people. Gen Gregg can bear testimony that the first Alabama Regiment entered the service, by an advance of Fifty Thousand Dollars obtained from the Bank at this place, to pay the Bounty, and arrears of pay due, without which, in all probability, they would not have re-enlisted.

In relation to the clothing, also, I would beg leave to enquire if the issues by the Department to the Volunteers will include Blankets-Shoes-and under-clothing, and, also, if the Confederate Government will be able to furnish clothing-in kind, to all the troops from this State, during the Spring-Summer and Fall. Information, on these points, is essential-not only to answer the inquiries of the Volunteers, but, also, for the purpose of determining-and regulating the action of the State, in providing supplies of Clothing for them, in case it should not be furnished by the Confederacy.

You will, my dear Sir, readily appreciate the motive which has induced this rather lengthy Communication, and excuse the liberty I have taken, in pressing these matters on your attention. I should not have done so, had I not regarded it as absolutely necessary to meeting the requisition in the shortest possible time.

I have the honor to be,
Very Resp'y
Your obt Serv't
(Signed) Jn° Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama Feb'y 14, 62

Lieutenant-Col. J.W.T. Morgan Camp-Davisford.

Dear Col.

Your esteemed favour of Jan'y 31st has remained unanswered this long-because I have been compelled-by press of occupation to delay an answer.

It is with pain that I learn that our brave 12-months Alabama men, now in the army, are likely to be slow in re-enlisting for the war. If trained men, now in the army, can, from any cause, short of physical inability, reconcile it to their minds & hearts to weaken the force which stands-as our only wall of defence against the invader, the influence upon the Cause of the Country, and the prospect of raising new additional Troops,-which we greatly need-must be most disastrous.

What you say about the absolute justice of a system of drafting-or Conscription, is most true: but if we are to depend upon that system to maintain the liberties of the South, I should almost despair of our ultimate triumph. It is not upon men who will insist upon what is strictly fair & just to themselves-that we can rely, in such a contest and such a crisis. It is upon the men of deep devotion to Liberty-to the generous-the unselfish-the self-denying-the self-sacrificing-the Spirit of martyrdom-in men & women-must ever characterize that Portion, of our Land, or it will be overwhelmed by the huge forces, arrayed against us. Stimulate us & look to the highest issues-by the impending ruin that even success will bring upon them-

of our enthusiasm for Liberty do not prove equal to their love of money - and lust of dominion - they must prevail.

The reasons to my mind, against an extra-session of the Legislature - and I have studied the subject carefully - are too strong to be shaken. I should regard such a session, at this time, as the signal for confusion - and disarray. Besides - if we are to fall-back upon a Draft - or Conscription, the Confederate Congress should lead the way. We may have to employ it - or, at least try it - after all; but I can but re-iterate the opinion, that, if our liberties are to be won by Conscripts or Drafted-men, the contest is to become one much more dubious than I have ever yet been inclined to admit. No! my dear Morgan! let us call for Volunteers - the willing soldiers of their Country & her liberties, until it shall conclusively appear, that such will not respond to the Call.

These late reverses have filled the Country with new spirit and energy. Present me, kindly, to the Gentlemen mentioned in your letter.

I remain, truly Yours.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, Feby 13th 1862.

Maj Genl Bragg, Mobile;

Dear Sir,

I beg to hand you - enclosed a letter to Brigadier General Wm J. Walker, A. M. unsealed, and which I desire you to read. You will send for him - and confer fully - as to the plan, as I wish to fully understand it - before the steps contemplated - is taken. Of course, you need no further assurance from me, that I am ready, at any moment, to bring any - and every power I possess, to your aid. If you should - at any time - deem it necessary to have Genl Walker's Command ordered into active service, I will trouble you to advise me. The condition of our State-treasury, and the belief that the Emergency does not yet demand it, have, so far controlled my action.

Allow me, also, to remind you of the embarrassments, which might arise out of any Conflict - or question of rank, in case this Brigade is ordered into actual service. Your wishes will be duly considered by me - in every contingency.

Very Respectfully,
Your obt Servt
Signed Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department.
Montgomery, Alabama, Feb 13th 1862.

Brigadier Genl W. M. Walker, A. M. Mobile. Sir;

Your favor of 10th inst. received me yesterday; I availed myself of the first opportunity to reply. After mature consideration, I have deemed it proper to affix your recommendation - & passed to muster into Service, the armed and equipped Company in your Command, with stipulations for pay - at 40 cents per day - & non-commissioned - officers and privates - for each day. They may be engaged in drilling - not exceeding five days in the week; I enclose the form of Stipulations to be executed by the respective Companies - certified, by their officers - to you, before they are mustered into service; and desire or engagements, deem it proper, however, to enclose this letter to Genl Bragg, that he may be advised of the plan - and confer with you before its adoption - & determine definitively, he approves it, I will dispatch upon an order to have the Companies mustered into the State-Service - on muster as in the Battalion in Gen Bragg's Command, which may accept the Stipulations enclosed.

Very Respectfully
Your obt Servt
Signed Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, Feby 13th 1862.

Hon Joseph Angell, Amanuensis, &c. &c.

Dear Sir,

Your letter to Mr James H. Albright, is received enclosing a list of guns. You will perceive this course to which I am excluded. I take no private arms that are not fit for service; but take all U.S. muskets and Rifles, that you can procure and repair them. Very respt.

(Signed) A.J. Moore, Aid-de-Camp.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, Feby 14th 1862.

Genl D. C. Green, 2. M. Genl of Ala. at Mobile.

Sir,

Enclosed I hand you check for amount of $. 1411 15/100, to cover estimate, and per memorandum for Hospital supplies. You will please state the items of the same, for the 3rd sacks separately amounting in the aggregate to $. 820 15/100, and receipt the account as paid by me, this day, from funds contributed by the Grand Lodge of Alabama. Also, receipt to me as paid this day $. 445 50/100, for 297 flannel shirts, at $1.50/100, from funds contributed by the Grand Lodge of Alabama. Also receipt to me as paid this day, same amount, ——— for 297 flannel drawers - paid by me out of Grand appropriated to the medical Department, by act of the General Assembly approved 6th of February, 1861. Also, please send me receipt of the persons to whom the flannels were issued. As I have to report these items of Expenditure - I must have the proper vouchers. Pack & Ship the Sacks to Col. M. A. Pickett A. D. C. at Montgomery.

Have you forwarded the boxes for the University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa?

Your obt Servt
(Signed) Wm Giles Harris.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, Feby 15th 1862.

Capt. M. D. Dunn, Mobile, Ala.

Sir,

In reply to your letter of Yesterday and realizing the necessity suggested, I have the pleasure to advise you, that I will advance the Committee of Safety Ten Thousand Dollars additional, in State Bonds, Interest Payable Semi annually, to be sold at Par. You may appoint an Agent to receive for them, or await my arrival by the 21st Inst when I expect to visit your city. Very respectfully, Your Obt Servt (Signed) Wm Giles Harris.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, Feby 13th 1862.

Maj. Genl M. L. McCoy - A. M. Mobile, Ala.

My dear Sir,

I sincerely regret that it has not been in my power to respond an earlier day, to your polite letter of the 23d ultimo and now regret that the pressure of official duties forbids me from an answer, as I would be glad to lend you. You will allow me to explain as to my not having written you sooner, that my letter of the 15th Ulto. was not deemed satisfactory by you. In that letter, I gave the reasons which confirmed my action. I frankly confess, that it would have been more in accordance with military etiquette, and the requirements of the Military Code to which you refer me, to have explained my action to Brig. Genl Forney, through your office. The emergency in which I was placed, did not afford me time to examine into, or rigidly to follow the requirements of the Code, when I was well satisfied, that I had the unquestioned power to do what I did. You will recollect, that at our last interview

N2
52

exercise would promote the public welfare. "Attention - I beg to call your attention to the Army Regulations of 1861 - as adopted by the late Confederate States, Section 428 - Page 58 - --- " When an intermediate Commander is omitted, the officer, who gives the order shall inform him, and he who receives it shall report it to his immediate superior." In pursuance of this regulation, I notified upon that I had extended orders directly - To Brig Genl Butler, and it was his duty to notify upon of the orders received by Him; which duty - I am informed - upon enquiry of him, he promptly discharged.

Repeating my assurance of no personal intention to invade your prerogatives - or to manifest - even - any discourtesy toward one whose character entitles him to the highest respect - I am, dear Sir,

Very Respectfully -
Your obt Servt
(Signed) John Gill Shorter.

P.S. Feb 14th The above letter was written last night - just before Midnight. This morning I am in receipt of yours of yesterday. Further reply is unnecessary

(Signed) J.G.S.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, Feb 15th 1862

Hon. A. Bonner, Tuscaloosa Ala.

My dear Sir,

I have the pleasure of acknowledging the receipt of yours of the 12th, and which - fully appreciating the appreciating the Patriotism which prompts the offer, I am forced - under existing circumstances, to decline availing myself of it.

Under the requisition - lately made, upon this State, by the President, I have issued a Proclamation (which you will have seen before this reaches you), for twelve Regiments, to serve for three Years, or during the War; and, as Experience has fully demonstrated, that men will not volunteer for the War, so-long-as there is, even, a possibility of getting in - for a shorter Period - I think it would be unwise - at this time - to accept any troops - for State-service, on any Terms. Within the last few days - I have had tenders of several Companies - upon Conditions - about the same as contained in your letter - all of which I have declined, for the reason - that every Company which is rec^d on these Terms - only increases the difficulty of obtaining any for a longer Term. If one is accepted, others will expect to be accepted, on the same terms; and, if refused, will probably disband - under the Impression that Equal justice had not been meted-out.

The twelve new Regiments have to be raised; and, if the call is not promptly responded to, by Volunteers, other means must be resorted - to. I trust however - the course - I have intimated will not be necessary - I am sure it will not be, if the proper exertions are used. The recent success of the Enemy, in Tennessee & the Roanoke - the raids upon our own Soil - the dangers impending over Mobile - and threatening our own Counties, should the movement there, be successful, have - I am gratified to say - aroused our People from their Lethargy, & awakened them to the Power & resources of the Foe. In the present tone and temper of the public mind, if these do not - and - perhaps - should not - volunteer themselves, will do their duty - and their whole duty, I believe - firmly - that I can have the twelve Regiments in Camp - at a very early day; but it will require the exercise of all our Energies. The next Six months - perhaps - 90 days - may determine the question - whether we are to be Slaves or Freemen: and if our People will only realize that this is the issue which they have to meet, I have no fears. Men, like yourself, however, must impress them to the knowledge & Consciousness of this truth. I rely, my dear Sir, that I have said more than enough to assure you - that those with you represent - for the tenders they have made, regret that I cannot accept them. Very Truly, (Signed) John Gill Shorter.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, Feb. 14th 1862

Maj. Genl Brayton Bragg - Head-quarters, Mobile,

Sir,

I enclose you, herein, a copy of a letter from the Secretary of War, of the 2d inst. and a copy of my Proclamation - founded thereon, of the 12th inst. I have, to-day - prepared for immediate publication all over the State - General order - No 2, requiring immediate enrollment of the militia, with a view to enforce a draft - if it become necessary, to fill the requisition. The recent reverses, which have overtaken us, however, have vastly stimulated our people, and I have strong hopes of raising the twelve Regiments, by Volunteer enlistments, within a reasonable time. For convenience - as well as to inspire Public Confidence, and enlist the vaunted energies of our people - I have deemed it advisable to establish a number of Camps, in the different sections of our State, where the Companies will rendezvous, for drill and organization. These Camps will be at Huntsville, & Tuscumbia, in North - Alabama - on the Memphis & Charleston Rail - Road. at Tuscaloosa - Talladega - Opelika - & Loachapoga - on the Montgomery & West Point, Rail - Road. at Selma, at Greenville, on the Alabama & Florida. R. R. - and a Camp at Mobile. So soon as the Companies begin to arrive in Camp, I will detail Cadets from the University of Alabama, to go to active drilling, of the men - in squads, & Companies - immediately.

I have written the Secretary of War for other and additional powers and for prompt provision of the bounty - money - clothing &c. If I can get the people - my personal & official assurance, on these - (to me) minor matters - it will, materially, advance the organization. It is very important that I should have authority to appoint my Military Aids - and other Special Aids - as mustering Aids - to muster - in Companies - or men, at any of my Encampments. There are a number of Gentlemen, travelling over the State, with written authority from the Secretary of War, to muster - in Companies or single men, & to have them subsisted & Equipped by the Confederate States. Two or three such Camps are designated, with Battalions & Regiments in progress. I will use all my influence to encourage all enlistments & organizations for the War, but am surprised that the Secty of War did not confer - at least - as much authority on me, when he called upon me to furnish 12 new Regiments. I presume, however, that these particulars did not occur to him. The Asst Commissary & Quarter - Master, here, require your order to furnish Transportation - Camp - Equipments - and subsistence, for all the men mustered - in under my direction, in filling - up the late requisition. I desire to be pleased to have these Officers so instructed, as not to embarrass any of my operations, but promptly to respond to my requisitions - made for the organization of Troops. With authority, in the first place, to order my Aids - de - Camp - over the State - to muster - in Companies & men - if necessary, and to make requisitions for their transportation &c. I can move on smoothly, and - I believe - efficiently. I dispatched you to-day, and hope to have this authority before you receive this letter. As the Rail - Road with Mobile is interrupted by the recent rains, and I can visit the City only by Steamboat, I fear I cannot spare the time from the Capitol, which will be, now, required to make the trip. I desired very much to review Gen Tuttle's Brigade of State militia, on the 22d inst. and if I shall be enable to reach Mobile by that day - as I, now, fear will be the case, it will be a great disappointment to me - from 6 to 8 days - I suspect.

The recent heavy rains have much injured all our connecting lines - and the utmost energy will be requisite to repair them promptly. In the meantime - we are annoyed with rumors of disasters on the Cumberland and Tennessee, which, I hope - & believe - will turn out untrue.

Your obt servt

(Signed) A. P. Gill Dickinson

54

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, Feby 19th 1862

Hon. P. Benjamin, Secy at War, Richd Va.

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose a communication from Capt F. M. M. Davies, and hope that the Department will if it can be done without injury to the service, attach the two companies referred to Col Frazer's Regiment

Very respectfully,
Yr obt Servt
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, Feb 18th 1862

Mr P. Hamilton, Mobile,

Dear Sir,

Your letter of 15th inst. is rec'd & the Governor instructs me to say in reply, that 200 negro men have been ordered to Blakely ~~and~~ 200 to Mount Vernon - or near there - under the instructions of Maj Gen Bragg, and you will find the number called for.

He does think the people of Mobile will certainly, under the circumstances, furnish the laborers needed, at the point now suggested, & if they have not done so, by the time you receive this, Telegraph him - & he will take the necessary steps to furnish them immediately. Can it be possible that the people of Mobile will procrastinate to furnish the laborers necessary for the purpose designated - where they are so immediately interested - and in such imminent danger of having their city destroyed? God will not help people that will not help themselves.

Be that as it may, if the laborers are not provided when you receive this - Telegraph the Governor.

In regard to the Boats desired by Commodore Randolph, the Governor directs me to say, that he is informed, that the Secretary of the Navy has not responded to the call for guns to arm the Boats, and thinks there can be no use for boats without guns.

As Commodore Randolph is the Confederate Naval Commodore, at Mobile, & responsible for the defense of the place - so far as said department is concerned — the Governor is at a loss to see, why the Commodore - if boats are needed for the Confederate Service - does not purchase or seize them, instead of calling upon the Executive of the State to do so.

Very Resp.y
(Signed) A. B. Moore. Aid-de Camp.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, January 1862.

Capt. J. M. Garrott. 20th Regt Ala. Volunteers

Dear Sir,

I am instructed by Gov Shorter, to enclose to you duplicate Registers of the arms left by you with Capt. Wagner, Ordnance officer of the C. S. A. with the valuation of the arms. These arms were delivered to Col. W. R. Pickett Asst Insp Gen by Capt. Wagner, at the request of the Gov, as authorized by you in your letter of the 1) th December last and were valued by him Pickett and Wagner, and entered - Line - with the price that each of the 89 rifled tubes you left with Wagner, were valued at & fixed at $18 - the price you paid, less 1/3 for tube. The Governor however, authorizes me to say, that he will pay you the $18 for each of said rifles, at their valuation, less 1/3 for tubes - & that he will receive - You will see, from the Register that 89 of the rifles are claimed

too small to admit of rifling. of these there are 19 which belong to the lot of 5th new rifles. Gov Shorter and I saw them counted. The Gov finds much difficulty in getting the others fixed out. Mr Reutner who is engaged at the work, has but a small establishment, and can't here repair, only about 5 guns per week.

At this rate, it will take many months to have repaired the 180 rifles returned to be fit for this operation. When I first proposed to you to have these guns have them repaired, ~~xxx~~ I understood that Mr Reutner was prepared to do the work; but in this I was not correctly informed.

I then endeavored to get Col. Pollard to fix up machinery, for boring guns, in his Rail Road Shop - which he agreed to do - but afterwards declined to do so. So that Mr Reutner has the only establishment in the State, at which the work can be done. The Governor is exceedingly anxious to have these guns put in order as speedily as possible, not only to gratify your wishes - but for the benefit of the service, and if he can find any place, where he can have it speedily done, he will immediately avail himself of the opportunity. After what has been stated, the Gov instructs me to say, that if upon this statement of facts - you prefer to withdraw your proposition, he would not object to your doing so, and will be controlled by your wishes in regard to the matter. In other words, he will get the guns ready for service - as soon as possible - or let you withdraw your proposition as you may prefer it. Lieutenant Hobson misunderstood me, in regard to the rifles - or some of them - being placed in the hands of other Soldiers. They were the same kind of rifles, purchased from a man, in Mississippi, of which I spoke.

Please acknowledge the receipt of this letter, and the Registers of Arms, and state your wishes in regard to the suggestion made by his Excellency Direct to Gov Shorter.

Very truly & Respectfully.
(Signed) A.B. Moore, Aid de Camp

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, Aug 19th 1862.

Col. Wm. M. Byrd,
Dear Sir,

Your letter of the 11th inst. has been rec'd and the Governor instructs me to say - that his correspondence with the War Department in regard to receiving troops for 12 months, is of such a character as to convince him, that it would be useless to make the effort to get you the privilege of raising a Regiment, for 12 months - or for the War, upon the Conditions suggested by you. The Sec of War will not receive a Company - Battalion - or Regiment, with Conditions annexed. If He were to receive One Regiment, upon Conditions it would open the door for every Reg't hereafter raised - to annex conditions, to the tender of services. He cannot discriminate - and grant privileges to one, & deny them to others. Were he to do so - it would lead to inextricable difficulties - and greatly prejudice the public service. The War Department requires that all Companies - Battalions - & Regiments must be for the War - and unconditionally. The Gov would be greatly gratified to see you at the head of a Regiment, feeling confident that you would make a bold gallant leader; but if your domestic matters render it improper to take a Regiment unconditionally, for the War - you should, certainly, not do so. The Gov knows that whether, in the field or not, you will be untiring in your efforts to promote the interests of the Confederacy - and to sustain our gallant Army. The Gov instructs me to say - that should you decide to accept the Col. of a Regiment he will, after it is organized, use his influence with the Sec of War, & Maj Gen Bragg, to have it stationed in Alabama. Should you accept he can promise you a speedy Ordered. Very Resp'y Your's &c

(Signed) Asst. Adj't Gen'l

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Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, Feb^y 20^th 1862.

Capt. J. H. Bethea, Montgomery,

My dear Sir,

I learned, a few days since, that the Company under your command, had been accepted by Maj. Gen^l Bragg, for the defence of Mobile, for the War - but for such a term only - as he might deem your services necessary. No one can appreciate more highly than myself, the patriotic motives which have induced the tender, on the part of yourself - the Gentlemen who are associated with you; but you will excuse me for saying that, under existing circumstances, I believe you could render more efficient service, in another direction, and, also, that I am satisfied, for the reasons stated by me, in a letter to Hon. A. Bonner, a copy of which I enclose - that the receiving of your Company would have an injurious - rather than a beneficial effect - just now, upon the 3 year enlistments under my proclamation of the 12th instant.

In entertaining these views - you will excuse my addressing you, and respectfully requesting you to withdraw your tender - for the present.

Very Resp^y
Your obt Serv^t
(signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department.
Montgomery, Alabama. Feb 20^th 1862

Messrs W. H. Horton, Mothers, Comm^e Union Town, or Demopolis,

Gentlemen,

I have the pleasure to acknowledge your communication, calling my attention to the erection of batteries on the Tombigbee river - above the junction.

Some days before the date of your letter, I had deemed it my duty, in anticipation of the possibility of a successful movement being made on Mobile, by the Enemy, to submit to Maj. Gen^l Bragg the propriety of meeting such a contingency, and protecting the Tom-Bigbee, by the erection of batteries - and the placing of obstructions above that point. The question has had his full consideration, and he came to the conclusion - I believe - correctly - that the points - above Mobile, which were the most essential to secure, were Blakely & Fort Stoddard. Two hundred negro fellows have been sent to each of these points, with provisions - and under competent overseers, to assist in the erection of the Defences. From the information I have rec^d, I think it probable that a larger slave force may be required, & it is important that the citizens of your County should be prepared to send - at the shortest notice - at least two hundred negro slaves - with Spades - Shovels - axes - &c. and provisions, as well as the right kind of men to take charge of them. These slaves may not be needed, but it is best to have them ready, that no time shall be lost if their services are required. We have waited & dallied too long.

The Tombigbee lies in the heart of Cotton - the heaviest part of the crop - Cotton to enable us to cope with the superior armament the enemy has. We have got to concentrate all our strength at one or two points on the river, we must find all our faggots together. With our means - it would be folly to put two guns at this point three at another, & the right - and can't get the guns, to defend every point with, & we cannot afford to dissipate our strength. A timely manifestation of the patriotism of the citizens, under the recent requisition, may be in time to prevent the necessity of calling out the militia - a month's or even, a Week's delay may be fatal.

Very Respy
Your obt Servt
(signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, May 1st 1861.

"To the officers & privates in the 3d Alabama Regiment."

I have the honor to address you in a brief but cordial dispatch of the pen-
-tence-making duty in which the 3d Alabama Regiment has engaged.
All agree that while there may be a few of your number who could be
do so, but cannot— it is the solemn duty of the remainder to stand by their colors.
It is said by some that, having been so long held in position, near Pensacola,
without opportunity to engage the enemy, you are disposed to re-enlist
only in view of being assigned to some other field, where you may more
effectively render active service; by others, that you are indisposed to re-enlist
which induced you to spring into ranks at the first call of your country,
has cooled down, and many of you are willing to continue in service upon
condition only that under some new organization, you are to obtain promo-
-tion by office; and still, by others, that you are indisposed to re-enlist
until you shall have returned to your homes and rested awhile, after
you will march forthwith to enter the army.

I appeal to your own manly sense and unbiassed judgement to decide,
if I have not vindicated the 3d Ala. Regt. by design that either condition
could, upon calm consideration, control the action of those who entered
the service of your organization too well, to desert for a moment your sacred pledge to their
professions. And I know the same spirit will prompt you to enlist
to enter the service, will induce you to continue in service if your country calls you
to remain and do sympathize with those accomplished soldiers & citizens—
still to fight "until the last armed foe expires," who well-deserve &
want for higher position, where they can, more effectually, advance the
glorious cause. But I admonish all such that they leave not the place
where—not the hour when the enemy may attack—not merely upon
the probability of entering the service a year sooner under any
more favorable circumstances. If they lay down their arms, others will take
them up. Over two thousand troops in Alabama, now in Camp and unarmed,
will instantly & gladly seize them, and spring into the vacant ranks. Alabama
has more men than arms; but the salvation of the country depends, not
only upon the value of our men, but the efficiency of the arms in their
hands. Half & untrained Volunteers may be overwhelmed & driven in
confusion from the field, while our well-disciplined troops, inured to
the Camp and familiar with the appliances of War, will stand as im-
-pregnable wall, for the protection & defense of the Country. Our States
will understand this, and are speculating upon their chances for
success, when the period of Enlistment of our 12-months' troops shall
have expired. One of the most influential newspapers, in the City of
New-York—which has just fallen under my eye, says, "we hope that Gen
McClellan will resist every attempt to precipitate events, before he is
ready—and that the President and his Cabinet will disregard all
in this connection especially in view of the fact that your service,
the Period of enlistment in the Southern Army for one year, will
have expired, and great numbers of the Rebels will reside to avoid
Great God! Can this be true? Will the Heroic men of Alabama
fulfill this prediction of our foes? Should they prove true to the pride
of the army from, which the fearful pestilence is spread to pervade our
lives—and when the dark cloud is gathered for our destruction,
then should disaster befall our Southern Land by their abandonment
of their post they would engender the horrors of pestilence in the
out, in all human probability, more destructive than the sword
of the enemy.

Allowing for the great importance there is, to fix in the minds
of Alabamians upon record, to be used in future years
from [illegible]

The services which you have rendered the Country have been invaluable. Every day in East Norfolk, while the United Brethren, had remained unapproached by the enemy, had secured a glorious victory to your cause. The materials composing the 3rd Alabama Regt. the thorough training of the men - the known skill and gallantry of its officers - and its total isolation from all other Alabama Regts, have given it a distinct and proud position in the Provisional Army & deserves a brilliant page in History. This it can well sustain, if assured, by the enemy - and by our own people also, that when the enemy is overwhelmed upon your chosen Volunteers within a brief period, and when the returning that - when - the opportunity - to march - from Pensacola - to our Capitol, and Camp dedication to our homes - will the Gallant men of the 3rd Alabama Regiment be the first to lay down their arms, & the proud banner entrusted to them by the glorious Women of Virginia, turn their backs upon the Old Dominion - even within the sound of the mightiest guns of the Enemy? God forbid! No! Stand by your arms! Cluster to your loved standard - & illustrate Alabama by showing how her brave sons can suffer & die - if need be - to defend their Country. The glorious Old Alabama flames its arms & its bright colors!

In a few more days, its vacant ranks will be crowded with impetuous men, crowding to Pensacola. Will not the intrepid 3rd lead off in Solid Column, & become a noble example to all other Alabama Regts in old Virginia? May God inspire & fill your hearts for this high resolve!

Let no considerations of personal comfort - inglorious ease & petty ambition, turn your heart, & seduce you from the field. Re-organize! Wait not for a month - or a week - or a day! If you re-enlist now, you engage for two years - return your arms, your number & your colors, and elect the officers to command you. If you suffer yourselves to be mustered out of service, & wish to re-enlist after, you return home; you must go on guard for three years - enter camps of rendezvous - and wait for arms - & organization & opportunity. Re-organize them, & the wings of the wind - which bears the joyful tidings homeward, shall carry back the benediction of Alabama, to cheer your hearts, and nerve your arms for the great battles, which are yet to be fought and won, before the deliverance of our Country can be achieved.

(Signed) W. L. L. Shorter

Executive Department
Montgomery - Alabama, Feb. 21st 1862.

"To the Corps of Cadets of the University of Alabama"

Well - knowing the patriotic ardor which warms your hearts, and your anxiety to be at the field - fearing that the delays - unavoidable, in procuring your local, may compel you to lay down your books, and march, impetuously to the field - I have deemed it my duty to my Country, & to you, to offer you an opportunity of rendering

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [

60

Proclamation by the Governor of Alabama.

Executive Department, Ala. 12th 1862.

The President of the Confederate States has called upon the Executive of this State to furnish twelve additional Regiments to serve for three years or during the war. Volunteer companies have been made upon the other sides, for transportation to their State Rendezvous. This requisition is made necessary by the naughty Yankees which the Sincere Co-operation in most faithful for our subjugation.

The troops will be accepted by companies, to be assembled into Regiments. The Captains & field officers will be elected by the men, and the Rolls of promotion in the Confederate Army will then apply. Encampments will be established, where the troops will be received. Transportation will be furnished from the place of organization of the Companies. After their arrival in Camp, and they be mustered into service, they will be clothed, subsisted, equipped and armed by the Confederate States. Each Private, & non-commissioned officer will be entitled to a Bounty of $.50.

A Company organization must contain one Captain — one 1st Lieutenant — 2 Second Lieuts. — 5 Sergeants — 4 Corporals — 2 Musicians; must not exceed Ninety-four, nor more than 100 Privates. Companies will form into Battalions when the Muster-Roll of a Company has been completed by enlistments, and the Company has been organized by the election of its officers, & is tendered to this Department for 3 years or the War, it will be accepted and ordered into Camp.

Alabama has never yet failed to respond to any call upon her for the Defence of our Constitutional Rights, and she will not now. The Enemy has been invaded — for a moment & hesitate.

The Contest in which we are engaged, held assumed a vital and gravity, which makes this demand imperative. The recent disasters to the Country demonstrate the necessity of organization & discipline, and these disasters have only nerved the arms of the Patriot, and strengthened the resolve to conquer or die. Upon the Northern border, the Yankees have been steadily driven back from the Potomac, and the Northern Army has been defeated at Fort Donelson! Then have been Slaughtering while the Confederate Army has been Victorious on every battle field! Pressing the Enemy on every side, and hastily to the Defence of Tennessee, the Yankees have been defeated at Shiloh! Repulsed the Enemy — Slaughtered Seventy Thousand Yankees, and driven them back to Pittsburg and Cairo!

The great battles for Freedom & Independence are yet to be fought. The Invader will be driven from the Soil of Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, Missouri, Texas, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Alabama, Tennessee, Kentucky, Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont, Maine, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, Utah, New Mexico, Arizona, California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Dakota, Nevada, Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, Cuba, Jamaica, Haiti, Dominica, Trinidad, Tobago, Barbados, Grenada, St. Vincent, St. Lucia, Martinique, Guadeloupe, Antigua, Montserrat, Nevis, St. Kitts, Anguilla, Tortola, Virgin Gorda, Anegada, Jost Van Dyke, St. John, St. Thomas, St. Croix, Puerto Rico, Vieques, Culebra, Mona, Desecheo, Aguada, Aguadilla, Isabela, Quebradillas, Camuy, Hatillo, Arecibo, Barceloneta, Manati, Vega Baja, Vega Alta, Dorado, Toa Baja, Toa Alta, Bayamon, Guaynabo, San Juan, Carolina, Loiza, Rio Grande, Luquillo, Fajardo, Ceiba, Naguabo, Las Piedras, Humacao, Yabucoa, Maunabo, Patillas, Arroyo, Guayama, Salinas, Aguirre, Jobos, Guayanilla, Penuelas, Ponce, Juana Diaz, Villalba, Coamo, Aibonito, Barranquitas, Comerio, Naranjito, Orocovis, Morovis, Ciales, Manati, Barceloneta, Florida, Arecibo, Hatillo, Camuy, Quebradillas, Isabela, Aguadilla, Aguada, Rincon, Anasco, Mayaguez, Hormigueros, Cabo Rojo, Lajas, Sabana Grande, Guanica, Yauco

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. Feb. 22d 1862.

Brig. Gen. Thos. J. Woodward, A. A. Genl.
Sir,

Your favor of the 18th inst. owing to the variety of the matters before it, has not been sooner answered, but I have assigned it the proper attention. Would have been gratified with the presence of Col. Gee to-day, or to-morrow, should, as I expected, my instructions to the several Commanders to join me in the intended Movement upon Pensacola.

The first pleasure has been denied me, by the late fierce blast, but hope to be in my power to meet a Brigade before upon the field of active service.

Your letter of the 15th inst. also, is at hand to-day, in reply to your Certificate of Elections by Volunteer Companies of Militia, Officers, but upon Commissions accordingly. I regret to inform you that it is not in my power to arm any of your Volunteer Companies, at this time.

My Agents over the State are buying up Shot-guns, Rifles, and Pistols which are to be had, & when received here, are to be forwarded to such points as may be in my power. I have directed Agents, in the Northern to ship to Gen. D. H. Greene, who will have the same put in order immediately, and issue on your requisition.

There are no other Regiments of Volunteer Militia being formed in the State, other than those within the limits of your Command — so far as this Department is advised. The new Regiment, therefore, to which you have assigned Capt. Le-Vert's Company, will be the 11th.

Very Respt'y,
Your obt. Servt.
(Signed) Jno. Gill Shorter.

Executive Department.
Montgomery, Alabama, Feb. 27th 1862.

O. A. Nelson, Esq. Pascagoula, Ala.
Sir

Your favour of 22d inst. is to hand. I sincerely sympathize with yourself and all Patriotic Citizens, I deeply regret the state of things, which has interrupted the progress of an Enterprise which I had hoped would have resulted so advantageously to the benefit of the Confederacy.

In reply to your request for permission, "to manufacture the Guns for the State at any point in, or out of the State upon (and) may think best," without dwelling for a moment on your suggestions as to particulars, I assure you simply that trusting to your judgement and experience, I cheerfully assent to your request that you may remove your tools and materials to any point where the contract can be carried out to the best advantage for the State of Alabama.

When you shall have perfected your new arrangements, I shall hope to hear from you.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obt. Servt.
(Signed) Jno. Gill Shorter.

62

Executive Department. 10

Montgomery, Alabama, Feb 21st 1862.

Capt. Edmund L. Molthenn, Mobile,

Sir.

I embrace the earliest opportunity to reply to yours of 20th inst. rec'd yesterday- or day before.

Having determined to establish a Camp in Mobile, it became necessary to assign some one to take Command of it, which I did by appointment of Judge McKinstry, as a Special Aid for that purpose. The Companies rendezvousing there must be tendered as Companies to me, and, when they arrive in Camp, will be organized into a Regiment & they elect their field officers. If not enough Companies arrive to make a Regiment, they will be merged with other Companies elsewhere, so as to fill up a Regiment. We are to have large Armies, and Regimental organizations must be dispatched as rapidly as possible. It is my purpose to expedite this desirable end by every means in my power, and, at the same time, to allow the Companies to exercise their free will in the election of their officers.

Upon this you can organize a Regiment at an early day- say by the 1st of April- at furthest, and it will secure that end, by my establishment of a Camp, in Baldwin Co. on the Rail Road. I will do so & assign you as Special Aid, without Compensation to Command it. This is taken however with the understanding, that the Companies must be tendered for my acceptance as Companies, & held subject to my order, for further organization if Your Companies do not arrive in Camp, by 1st of April. Of course any view which you may have will not be disregarded if Compatible with the good of the service. By order of Maj Gen'l Bragg the Commissary & Quarter-master departments are directed to provide for all my Companies & Transportation will be furnished from the place of organization of the Company; and I have no doubt that, on application to him, he would authorize transportation also, for Squads. Awaiting further reply- I am-

Very Respy
Your obt Servt
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter. C

Executive Department.
Montgomery, Alabama, Feb 21st 1862.

Capt. J. D. Webb, Manassas, Virginia,

I am in receipt of your letter of 17th inst. and gratified at its Contents. A check in your favour, for $950, has been forwarded to Capt. Van de veer as requested.

I enclose a Commission to David A. Walker as suggested by you, and I hope he may be transferred by the Secretary of War, to whom I enclose a letter of request accordingly. Very Respy Your obt Servt
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter. C

Executive Department.
Montgomery, Alabama, Feb 21st 1862.

Hon. J. P. Benjamin, Sec'y of War,

Sir, Under an act of the Gen'l assembly of the State of Alabama, I have had built at Manassas, a Depot building for the reception of Supplies for Alabama Troops: and I have Commissioned Lieut David A. Walker in Company C, 5th Alabama Regiment, as assistant Commissary for Alabama, in the State service- with the rank of Captain to take charge of the establishment, & I hope it will be agreeable to you to transfer him to that position.

Very Respectfully,
Your obt Servt
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter C

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, Oct. 25th 1862.

David A. Walker is, hereby appointed Assistant Commissary in the State Service, with the rank of Captain; and assigned to the special duty of taking charge of the Depot at or near Montgomery in the State of Virginia, for the reception of supplies for the Alabama Volunteers.

(Signed) Jno. Gill Shorter

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, Oct 25th 1862

Maj. Gen'l A. M. Barclay, Comm'd'g 10th Division, Ala. Mil. Montgomery

General,

Yours of the 14th did not reach me until the 25th. It affords me much pleasure to acknowledge the zeal and energy you have displayed, in the organization of your Division; and, so far as I am able to judge of the details of your orders and the disposition of your forces, they meet with my cordial approval.

In the perilous crisis which is upon us, which we have to meet, to do so with success, we must first ascertain, with some thing like accuracy, the extent of our resources. We know that we have no want of men brave, but I fear, undisciplined men. Our object must be to arm and increase their efficiency by discipline and instruction. We have to begin with Companies, must have every member enrolled who is subject to Military duty, have the number and description of the arms of each Company registered, and the returns consolidated into the Regimental Reports. Have Company drills as often as possible, and Battalion, and Regimental occasionally. If each Field, Brigade, and Division officer will act with the same promptness and activity, which have characterized your action, much can be accomplished, even with our Militia. It is the duty of every man, who has accepted position, without relation to his Rank, to exert himself to the utmost, not only by his orders but by his bearing, the example, & influence of his position, in effecting these results. Every thing which is done should contribute to the end of preparing our Militia to take the field, at the shortest notice, and making their action, when called into the field, as efficient as possible. We do not want them, at this moment, in actual service, but we do want them prepared for it, when the time comes, which may be sooner than any of us anticipate. The Confederate Government has assumed the Control & direction of the War on the Tennessee; and it is my most earnest prayer that the invader will be driven from our soil, but I regard it as imprudent, in view of the action of the Confederate Government, to order our Militia to occupy any other position than that of a reserve, or auxiliary force, prepared to co-operate, by Regiments, and go into actual service, whenever the occasion may demand.

As regards instructions which you ask, as to the Commissary and Quarter-Master Departments, the Constitution of the State, in giving forbids any heavy expenditure, and, indeed any expenditures of any kind, except such as are absolutely essential. Tents, and camp equipage can, I have reason to believe, be supplied by the Confederacy, and, if possible, powder sufficient to supply the arms of each Regiment should be obtained. The Commissaries of the Regiment on the Tennessee, should perfect every arrangement to obtain subsistence at the shortest notice, should the Regiment be called into actual service, and, generally speaking, every thing should be prepared so that subsistence could be promptly procured for any force or Regiment to which might be ordered into the field. Forms and lists should be carefully prepared, and duplicates made out, specifying ammunition, and also specifying particularly what type, size, & should life you to have, in your opinion, to be used.

64

In relation to the two Germans whom you have arrested for disloyalty, I hardly know what to say. I don't know what grounds of suspicion may exist against them; I have, really nothing upon which to regulate any action. There is great danger, in times of high excitement, of making serious mistakes of this kind are made with Foreigners; it is worse in its effects than with our own Citizens. All that I can say is that the arbitrary exercise of military power - in restraint of the liberty of the Citizen, although it is sometimes necessary, should always be regulated by great discretion & prudence and, in doubtful cases, if it is, as a general rule, better that it should not be exerted at all. The action of the civil tribunals, if it can be legitimately exerted - is preferable to martial Law - so far as Citizens are concerned.

Very Respectfully,
Your obt Servt
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, Feb 23d 1862.

Maj. Gen. P. Van Dorn,
Dear Sir,

The Governor directs me to send you the enclosed order or bill - drawn on you in favour of J. D. Allen, for $1,250.00, & to request that you place that amount to his credit - and to notify him of the fact. Acknowledge receipt of bill & oblige

Very resp'y
(Signed) Wm H. Albright
Private Secy

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, Feb'y 25th 1862.

His Excellency - John Milton - Gov'r of Florida, Tallahassee.

I have received your Communication of the 20th inst - enclosing a copy of the report of Gen'l R. H. Floyd - Commanding at Apalachicola. I can readily conceive the amount of injury which might result from the Capture of that place, to Citizens of this State - Florida and Georgia; and no one would be more willing to extend to them protection, & secure their Safety than myself, were the means within my power, and if were consistent with public requirements, elsewhere. But Alabama had no State troops - those originally enlisted in her service having been transferred to the Confederate States' army; and no Volunteers being now raised unless for the War, and who are, immediately, mustered into the Confederate service, it was concluded, after grave deliberation, that the ultimate & certain success of our Cause would be more speedily attained by the concerted action of all the States - through their Confederate Government, than by the irregular & disconnected efforts of the several States - however well-directed. all the energies & resources of Alabama are now being devoted to the support of the Government - in its unequal contest; to divert any portion of them to any other purpose - except upon some pressing emergency - where the common welfare was at stake, would endanger the success of our great Cause. It would be a great misfortune, should a hostile force get into the Enemy's hands - or the public property be destroyed - or the Citizens be exposed to outrages - which have characterized the conduct of the Enemy. It seems to me that, to attempt with inadequate force, to hold isolated positions - points of special strategic importance - is to invite a disaster - similar to those which have recently befallen our men - seven in number - with a sufficient fly-effective Artillery, exposed to be attacked by the vastly superior force the Enemy have the means & carefully concentrate - & should they desire it will have effected themselves - unless we are willing, or intend to be compelled to submit to a humiliating

of Man, is so urgently needed, the moral effect of such reverses is extremely unfortunate. The policy of defending persons and property, at such, will have to be abandoned; our people must begin to think more of their liberty, which is at stake — and less of their property - which is endangered, they can only save the one by securing the other: Even if a position is entirely defensible, and the holding of it contributes to the success of our Cause - it dissipates our strength by dividing it. Our forces now scattered over a vast extent of country — barely within supporting distance of each other - should be concentrated at some one of the great lines of defence, in sufficient Columns, that could successfully attack and repulse the invaders. If it be not done, they will be beaten and cut off in detail; disaster will succeed disaster, until the whole of the South will be over-run, and we will be driven, as a last resort, to that most cruel bloody - & tedious of all warfare - a Guerilla War. It is not my intention to advise your Excellency to the adoption of any course, in this particular instance, but I thought it not unfitting to make this an opportunity for the expression of opinions I may entertained, that we might "take counsel together" in these times of perils.

I have the honor to be
Your Excellency -
Your obt Servt
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, March 1st 1862

Jos. W. Taylor, Esq.
Dear Sir,

Capt. Fields' first pitch handed me upon the 26th ult. and $82 75/100 - proceeds of a series of "Tableaux Vivants" given by the young Ladies & gentlemen of Eufaula — contributed for the most needy Alabama Soldiers.

Capt. Fields had the misfortune to lose the Socks - gloves and Comforters, by their being stolen from the Stage-Office or place of Deposit, in Greenville.

The money will be placed to the Credit of the Hospital Fund, & used for the relief of needy - sick & wounded Soldiers, of Alabama. I hope its application, in this direction, will meet the approbation of the Contributors. We do good and to render the young gentlemen & Ladies of Eufaula, my thanks for the Contribution.

Very respectfully,
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, March 3d 1862.

Col. M. H. Chambers, & Wm H. Thornton,
Gentlemen,

You are, each, hereby, authorized to act for the State of Alabama, at Eufaula, in protecting the Chattahoochie against the encroachments of the Enemy. You will co-operate with the authorities of Columbus and other towns. Accompany the Engineers and others on the River, to select points for obstructions & defences, and do all other things that may be deemed necessary & proper to accomplish the object aforesaid.

Yours, Resp'y
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, March 3, 1862.

Dr L. C. Garland, Pres't Univ't of Ala. Tuscaloosa.

Sir,

On the 21st ult. I addressed a letter to the Corps of Cadets, at the University, advising of the decision of this Department upon the subject of their enlistment in the army. It had, further, occurred to me, as not inappropriate, to make an appeal, also, to the officers - both Scholastic & Military - attached to the University - to remain at their posts, where, in my judgement, they are rendering the State & Country more important and valuable service than they possibly could perform in any other position. Teachers of Youth - the future stay and dependence of our Government, and the Church - whether they be Professors in Colleges - or Superintendents of Village - or County, School-rooms - are, by the Military Law of the State, wisely, exempted from military duty and drill - except in an extreme emergency - when it might become necessary to order, into active & immediate service - every available man. They are, likewise exempted - and shall be - from every draft which may have to be ordered. These Considerations have so impressed my mind, in view of our present condition, that I find myself compelled - through an address to you, to assure the Officers of the University of my high appreciation of their Patriotic services in their accustomed Spheres, and to, earnestly request that they will remain at their posts, and faithfully - as they heretofore have done, Labor for the Continued usefulness of the University over which you have the honor to preside.

Yr obt Sert.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, March 3. 1862.

Dr L. C. Garland,
President of the University of Alabama
Tuscaloosa.

Sir,

Your suggestions - as to making Cartridges are approved. You will buy powder and lead at such prices, as, in your discretion will be proper, and have the Cartridges prepared for the use of the Corps of Cadets, to be used with such economy as you see necessary - at this time. And, if the materials can be had, you will oblige me by having Cartridges made for the State. Powder (Rifle) is selling - at - from $1c to $2c per pound - Lead - from 15 to 25 Cents. I am buying - within these limits, through my agents. I will thank you, also, to have guns repaired by your machinists and Rifles bored - if practicable: I mean the arms purchased by the State's Agent in your County. Those large enough should have the bore of the Mississippi Rifle - 33 or 34 to the lb - smaller ones the bore of Colts Repeaters. I enclose you another check for $1000.00 which you will please apply to payment for arms purchased and delivered - to this account you will also place cost & charges for ammunition. I will make further remittance - as I am advised that it may be needed.

Very respy
Your obt Servt
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, March 4th 1861

Hon. L. P. Walker,
Sec'y of War,
Sir,

In response to my proclamations, for twelve companies, our people are volunteering very favorably; and I hope to have a number of regiments in March, in a few weeks. The contest for positions, by ambitious and combitious men, will cause some little delay, which, though much to be regretted cannot be avoided, under the rule for the election of officers.

I am accepting Cavalry companies for one regiment only, and requiring the men to arm with double-barrel shot guns, but fear many cannot be had. They must have sabres which the Confederacy will furnish. Capt. Wagner Ordnance officer here should have them ready, in two or three weeks, and saddles and other equipments. They should have pistols - if possible. And now my dear Sir - as Pensacola is to be abandoned and all the land troops to be removed from Mobile - will you not furnish arms for my Infantry regiments - and let them go to Mobile, as fast as I can organize them? The knowledge or ultimatum of this fact would greatly stimulate enlistments. So soon as our people learn that our Gulf-coast is abandoned to the enemy, they will become greatly excited, and prompt supply of arms will tend largely to re-assure the people. We are distributing here - guns, having sent out of the state - all the public arms the state had, and contributed them - with our brave troops - to the Common Cause.

I feel most profoundly - the misfortunes which have recently befallen our arms - and the imperious necessity, of recovering our losses in Tennessee and Kentucky; and Alabama will lend all her energies to meet the demand with her patriotism; but, at the same time, as far as it is within the power of the Confederate Government I earnestly insist upon every possible contribution for the defense of Mobile and the Alabama River. There is an element of population bordering this river and its tributaries, which it is of vital importance to preserve intact.

I have established several Camps in South-Alabama, and two in North Alabama - one at Huntsville, one at Talladega. A quarter-master & Commissary should be posted at Huntsville, immediately, and supplies of clothing sent thither without delay. I hope you, also, to have shipped here immediately, clothing for 5000 men. The State can furnish jackets and pants for several thousand, and will aid - as far as her power, to clothe it. I hope that the proper officers of the War Department will give these matters prompt attention; and I further ask instructions for the commissariate officers here, to respond - efficiently - & promptly - to any requisitions - in aid of the organizations now forming.

Very Resp'y

Your ob't Serv't

(Signed) Jno. Gill Shorter.

C

65

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, March 5th 1862

His Excellency Gov. Pettus, Jackson, Miss.

Dear Sir,

By direction of the Governor, I herewith enclose you a certificate of Deposite to your credit for fifteen Thousand dollars to pay for guns and other munitions of war, purchased in the North- Alabama Counties- and deposited with you- for the State- the receipt of which acknowledge to me- and oblige,

Very truly
(Signed) Wm. H. Wright Private Secretary.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, March 5th, 1862.

His Excellency- John J. Pettus, Governor of Mississippi,

Sir,

I read with infinite pleasure, I received your letter of the 22d ult. The reverses which our armies have recently met with, have never, for a moment, made me despond. Distressing- as they were- in the loss of so many gallant men, and the unexpected surrender of so large a number to an overwhelming force- they have only nerved me to the performance of any additional labor or sacrifice- which may be required and have inspired the people of Alabama to renewed exertions, in defence of their liberties. "The storm has opened on us in earnest," but the fury of its commencement portends- I hope- the shortness of its duration. Depend upon it we will weather it, and brighter days- and glorious future will shine upon us. at all events- Mississippi and Alabama have their fates inseparably linked for Weal or woe; the hearts of their people throb with a common feeling- they must & they will- stand- shoulder to shoulder, in combat on the field, and if the worst should come, file "here we rest," to which tradition ascribes the name of this State, spelled by its people in a more Saxon mode than at its origin. "Here we rest" living as Freemen or dead on the field of Honor. Perhaps, the late misfortunes were necessary to arouse us to a sense of the magnitude of the struggle in which we are engaged. We were too secure of success, and the guilty of the Error of despising our Enemies. Our liberties will be saved by us- in proportion to the sacrifices they cost us, won without suffering, might soon, have been surrendered without a blow. This fact will make for us- a History, whose earliest pages stained in the blood of the martyrs, will exercise- upon the future of our Country, more profound & permanent influence, than any peaceful triumphs of Government- accompanied with whatever prosperity could ever leave done. While- therefore- I lament the loss of so many generous spirits- it does not make me- nor our people recede a foot- but gives fuel to our resolve, and fills us with the unextinguishable thirst- & Steady of Revenge.

Let us not waste our time in vain regrets- or mere resolutions- the various Requisitions called for by the Confederate authorities, are being rapidly filled, Corps of Instruction have been established, by me, in various parts of the State and competent Instructors will be provided to drill them- this is indispensable- the effect of volunteering was never more evident, than now- let us preserve- and improve- this- by wise and energetic action. Every possible effort is now being made, by me, to obtain Arms & Munitions- and I trust soon to be able, with our own Army- for 5000 additional troops, for duty- & will be ready to turn in two months. The Corps organized & to be organized, by the last Legislature, for Military duty, is [illegible] & will be [illegible] by me- for service- for [illegible] & confidence, as the [illegible] & present when in the State [illegible] & [illegible] Requisition of [illegible] Troops-

lines of an approved pattern, the manufacture of which is now in progress, and am endeavouring to ascertain where contracts can be made for the manufacture of Cannon and Powder. You may be assured, that we are not idle: We feel the importance of the struggle; and are determined not to be over-run by a people - possessed of scarcely a trait that entitles them to respect, and of every one that makes Contempt and hatred their due. Agents have been appointed to purchase guns in every Country, and all Rifles that are procured, are being rifled-out to the Calibre of the Mississippi Rifles. Purchased guns, Rifles bored to the same size.

Nor will my efforts relax with this preparation - any thing that occurs to me - that can be done, will be immediately attended-to, rely on this - I am but the Representative of the people of this State who are prepared for every Sacrifice. In this confidence of engagements, it is not in my power to name a time - nor fix a place when I could confer with the Governors of other Southern States. I do enquire, with you, the great importance of a common understanding between us, as to the means and extent of the efforts necessary to conquer our safety; but devoting all my energies - now to sustaining our Common government - which calls for support, I am not prepared to suggest any mode of State-action. I will be happy to receive from you any suggestion as to the time and place of such a meeting, however; and of any system of defensive measures which may have occurred to you. It is clear to me that the Colonies States - which inaugurated this War for Liberty, must depend upon themselves for its successful termination, and I believe they are equal to this duty. If stern necessity should compel the growing States to yield to a superincumbent pressure from the North, we cannot; with us it is a life + death struggle: annihilation or success are our alternatives. I think, from the recent activity of the Confederate Government - that it is becoming aware of this Truth: large bodies of Troops are being concentrated on Tennessee, and our invaders will have to be driven from their Fate. Should we under necessary the Surrender of some of our Seaports, which will be grievously wounding to our pride, but it will result advantageously for us ultimately. One victory - or a well-directed fire where the Enemy are hurled back - disorganized and demoralized, is worth to our cause - more - all our Seaports - and a thousand fights - which bring no consequence in their train.

As to the Confederate Treasury notes - it seems to me that it will not be difficult to keep them at par. If it true that during temporary reverses, there are men in our midst whose hearts never expand the circumference of a Dollar, would speculate on the uncertainty of our liberty, but they are few. The remedy is simple for the Confederate Congress to make such notes a legal tender in payment of all debts. There is no Constitutional prohibition, and such an act would endure their currency a year. In a Country they have so made receivable in payment of all public dues, they are at current, as our own Bank-notes. If desired a Convention could be called, & the requisite legislation effected.

Let me hear from you again, in regard to the meeting of the Southern Governors; any suggestions you might have to make, concerning most effectual organization for it; or they would be such as could be promptly - only - by the concert - elevated into grand consideration of our Councils - and Necessities.

Since writing the above, I have learned that Breckenridge is to be cleared, and have been called on by the Commanding General, for Negroes to assist in disinterring the fortifications, and removing the Guns. The Cannon Ball of the Fort, although nearly two years in the ground - during which time it has been frequently exhumed & buried, by the Federal forces, the Columbus Corps, & the Kentucky Militia, is as

and shall endeavor to concentrate there as many other Volunteers or Militia as may be needed. I feel strongly inclined to call for Volunteers for a limited time- less than 12 months, for service in Defense of that City. It seems to me, that it is important not only to Alabama- but to Mississippi, to retain possession of it

Aside from the real damage the Enemy might inflict along our navigable Streams- now bordered by his Ships- the Mobile & Ohio Road- if they should secure possession of its Southern Terminus, might be used- with disastrous effect, upon both States. I therefore request that, as Mobile is the Common Sea-port of both our States, Your Excellency should unite with me, in the adoption of measures, for its immediate defense, by sending Volunteers- or Militia there, who will be under the Control of the Commanding General U. S. A. They should be provided- should you send them- with provision to twenty-days' rations.

Most Respectfully,
Your obt Servt
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, March 6th 1862

(Proclamation of the Governor of Alabama.

For the protection of our Gulf-Coast- to repel invasion, and to preserve Mobile in a State of security- I shall order-out a Corps of Militia from the Counties of Mobile, Washington, Clarke, Baldwin, Monroe, Choctaw, Sumpter, Greene, Perry, Wilcox, Dallas, Pickens, Tuscaloosa, Bibb, Shelby, Covington & Autauga, for the Term of Ninety days- unless sooner discharged. I will receive in advance of the Militia- and for the same Term- sixty four Volunteer- Companies, from the same Counties, who must arm, clothe, and equip themselves; each Company to consist of one Captain- One First-Lieutenant- 2 Second Lieutenants- four Sergeants- four Corporals- and not less than sixty four- nor more than one Hundred Privates.

All Companies raised under this Proclamation- will be held as Minute men, and must be prepared to proceed immediately, to Mobile. Each Company must provide- at least six axes- for hatchets- four shovels or Spades; and, at least Ten days' rations to commence the march.

It is not probable- that the services of these troops will be required for the full term; and they will not encumber themselves with any useless- or unnecessary- Clothing; and no more baggage than is allowed by the Regulations, will be allowed. It is desirable that each man, should if possible, provide himself with at least twenty rounds of ammunition- suitable for the gun he is armed with, before marching; and take with him, his bullet- mould- and powder-flask. Each Company will furnish its own Transportation to the nearest point on the River or Rail-Road, and transportation will be furnished- from such points to Mobile. As time is of importance- the Captain of each Company- so soon as it is organized with the full number of officers- Non-Commissioned officers- and Privates and provided with the rations and implements Specified, will report his number- roll- to the Adjutant & Inspector General of this State, and proceed immediately- with his Company, to Mobile, Reporting- on his arrival- to the officer in Command at that place.

In testimony whereof, I, J. Jno Gill Shorter, Governor of the State of Alabama- have hereunto set my hand, and affixed the Great Seal of the State, this Sixth day of March, 1862

(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

By the Governor
(Signed) P. H. Ventress
Secty of State

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama March 7th 1862.

Messrs Bowman & Patman, Griffin, Georgia.

Gentlemen,

I am directed by the Governor, to enclose herewith, a check for Six hundred dollars, on the Bank of Commerce, Savannah, Georgia, to pay your account for "Army regulations of the Confederate States" and "School of the Pistol" furnished by you for the State of Alabama, and to request that you acknowledge the receipt of the same, to me.

Very Respectfully,
(Signed) Jas. S. Albright. Private Secretary.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, March 7th 1862.

Wm. H. Allen, Lafayette, Indiana.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 24th ult., the Governor directs me to inform you, that you are authorized to "secure Munitions for the State. In the particular case, referred to, by you, seize the State property quietly - if possible, and - if that cannot be done, then use such force, as may be necessary to enable you to obtain possession of it. Unless the Party, having it, makes sufficient proof before some person authorized to administer oaths, that it is not public property - never belonged to the State, and he obtained it from some person or persons, who had the right to sell or dispose of it, and did it bona-fide, his private property; you will pursue the same course in all similar cases. If you go into Mexico, get the Governor to name some officer - and energetic man, to act in your place.

Very Resp.
(Signed) Jas. S. Albright
Private Sec'y

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, March 14th 1862

Proclamation, by the Governor of Alabama.

The recent disasters which have befallen our Armies, instead of depressing - should nerve the unconquerable purpose, and arouse the mighty power of these Confederate States. Seven millions of people, resolutely determined to maintain their right of self-government, and not bow their necks to the oppressors' yoke, can never be subjugated. They will rise in their majesty, and strength, and, with the blessing of God upon their righteous Cause, will drive back the invaders from their land and Country.

The reverses of war have imposed new duties upon Alabama and her sister Confederate States. The first is - to banish therefrom all Gold, and silver - and that sordid spirit, which values property above Liberty, and to piously, cultivate that martyr-spirit which will sacrifice every material interest - rather than forfeit the priceless inheritance of Freedom. Cut-off - as their supplies may be, from the North-West, the Cotton-States should nobly, solely, upon their own resources & products, to furnish subsistence for the Armies within their borders. With this Policy the world against the world, without remuneration for the labor of its production, & without, even - the material for covering the dead, the growing of Cotton - to any - considerable extent - will not only retard the operations of the Organization of the great Armies - which must be formed, but will drive to increase the energy - and stimulate the resources of our people. The people of Alabama are requested - and the Military officers of the State will be required to

72

from every bale of Cotton within this State if it be necessary, to prevent it from falling into the hands of the public Enemy; and if the people of these Cotton-producing States are a wise people, they will raise not another crop of cotton beyond the demand for Home-Consumption, until this unholy & cruel War shall cease. Let the States of the North, which have fattened upon your toil, and which now seek your subjugation, and to impose upon you the burdens of untold millions of War-expenditures, and let the nations of Europe--which behold your struggle for deliverance, while their suffering people are clamoring for your great staple--see and learn that your value liberty & free government far above all other Earthly Considerations.

Plant not then, one seed of Cotton beyond your home wants, but put down your land in Grains, and every other kind & description of farm product, and raise every kind of ~~farm product~~ live stock, which may contribute to the support of your own families, and the needy families of your brave defenders, & which will be wanted also, for the subsistence of the grand armies, which shall march to the achievment of your Independence.

Men--brave & gallant men--responding to the call of their bleeding Country, are rushing, by thousands, to the Field. Their cry is for Arms with which to Engage the foe! People of Alabama! will you not send the Shot-guns & rifles, rusting in your houses, that many place them in the hands of your own sons, to defend your altars & your homes? People of Alabama! will you not commit your arms into their hands? Agents are appointed--all over the State, to collect arms. If they do not find you--I beg you to find them! Let every Sheriff and Judge of Probate, and all State-officers, Civil & Military--receive & forward arms. Expenses will be promptly Paid by the State.

Let every man do some thing towards arming our troops & he cannot go to the Battle-field. Turn your shops into Laboratories for the Manufactories of arms & the munitions of War, send me thousands of Shot-guns & rifles--Bowie-Knives & Spikes send Powder Lead and Ball. What you cannot afford to give the State will buy. Let the entire resources & energies of the people be devoted to the one great purpose of this War. War stern & unrelenting--War to the Knife!--such a War as, in the Providence of God--we may be compelled to wage, in order to vindicate the inalienable right of self-government.

If this exhortation be an abhorrent sin against humanity, all good men are earnestly urged to denounce its practice and crush-out its Spirit. Creditors are counselled to exercise moderation & forbearance, over-burdened and destitute people invited to cultivate a Spirit of mutual confidence--of Loyalty and devotion to their State, & Confederate Government. With a true appreciation of the dangers which surround us; and of our duty to God, our Country, let us all live and labor, and, if need be--die, for the advancement of the glorious Cause for which we are contending.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the Great Seal of the State to be affixed, at the City of Montgomery, this first day of March, A.D. 1862 and of the Independence of the Confederate States of America the second year.

(Signed) A. B. Moore.

By the Governor.

(Signed) [illegible] Secretary of State

Executive Department.
Montgomery, March 15th 1862.

Wm D. Y. Ison, Esqr, Lawrence, Lawrence Co. Ala.

Dear Sir,

Your letter of the 3rd inst. to W. H. Phillips, Secy. of State, has been handed to this department, for answer.

The Governor directs me to inform you that you are exempted from Militia-duty, during the continuance of your agency, to collect-purchase-or receive contributions of arms-& munitions of war for the State.

Very respectfully,
(Signed) Jas. S. Albright
Private Secretary.

Executive Department.
Montgomery, Alabama, March 12th 1862.

James D. Smith, Esq.
Dear Sir,

Your letter of the 8th inst, in relation to the transfer of your brother from the "La Grange military School" to the University of Alabama, has been received.

The Governor directs me to inform you, that, under the act referred to in your letter, he has no power to authorize the superintendent of the University to receive your brother-or any of the cadets of either of the schools-mentioned in it-to be educated in the University-at the expense of the State.

Very Respy
(Signed) Jas. S. Albright
Private Secretary.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, March 15th 62

Hon. W. D. Jemison, Secretary of State, Tuscaloosa Ala.

Dear Sir,

I beg leave, respectfully, to bring to your notice, the following facts, which have occurred since Mr Blanchard-acting quartermaster-General of Alabama, dispatched Lieut Spalding-commanding a Company of Col. A Loman's Regiment-Ala. Vol.-with clothing, for which he receipted-and the Officer Commanding the Company-executed a clothing Contract to pay the State-(Agent the amount, out of the commutation money-when paid. Lieut S. has now returned-received the commutation-money for the Company, and reports that it has been made-by the State-Agent-but refuses-to pay for the money, but offers-to return clothing-which is not-and I fear-will not pay the money-

Under these circumstances, I ask that a Warrant may issue immediately-arrested, and otherwise proceed against him for embezzlement. This is highly important-that defalcations, like these, should be met with the strictest, otherwise the evil will spread. The State loses-by this time-that the quartermaster-Agent, in the hands of negligent commanding Officers-two thousand dollars-& I hope, more-will be the total-before it ceases-I am sir very respectfully your obt servt

[illegible]

74

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama March 15th 1862

To the Judges of Probate and Sheriffs of every County in the State.

It is the wish of the State Authorities, that every, be made to their Department, of the number of Companies in the service of the Confederate States, from each County in the State, and the term of service of each Company.

The duty of ascertaining and reporting the same, devolves upon the Judges of Probate and Sheriff of each County, requesting them, immediately upon the receipt of this Circular, to ascertain;

1. The number of Companies, from their County, in the service of the Confederate States;
2. The term of service of each Company, whether for twelve months or the War;
3. The name of the Capt. of each of said Companies.

The information I require is essential to the military operations of the State, and should be furnished me, as early as possible.

The Judges of Probate and Sheriffs are requested to acknowledge and report by letter, directed to me at Montgomery Alabama

Signed Jno Gill Shorter

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, March, 17th 1862.

Hon Joseph H Hutchinson,

Dear Sir,

I need & raise several thousand ninety-day Troops, under my proclamation of the 6th inst. to go to Mobile, for the defense of the Coast. They must be ready early in April, to prevent the necessity of a Draft, which will be forthwith ordered, unless the Troops are raised by Volunteering.

Your aid is tendered for you, in the present emergency, and I respectfully, ask you to accept an appointment from this office - as Recruiting Agent, to visit the counties, in your District of the State named in my proclamation, and urge the people to organize - at once - in response to my call.

All expenditures incurred by you in the necessary discharge of this Agency, will be refunded by the State.

Hoping to have the pleasure of a favorable response,

I am,

Very respectfully,
Your obt Servt
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama March 17th 1862.

Hon. A P Benjamin, Secy of War, Richd Va.

Sir,

Is it possible to get a few thousand muskets or rifles, from recent importations or otherwise, to put into the hands of my citizen Regiments now raising. We are badly needing Arms, on the Coast, for defense of Pensacola & Mobile, both. Where I am re-inforcing, by sending a number of Militia Companies, as tendered Troops for limited service.

An early answer is respectfully requested.

Your obt Servt

(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, February 19th 1862.

Hon. S. R. Mallory, Sec'y of the Navy, Richm'd Virginia.

Sir,

Gov'r Shorter having heard that there is, at the Pensacola Navy-Yard, all the necessary machinery for the manufacture of arms, has requested me to inform you of the fact. The property is claimed by the State of Alabama, by the troops commanded by Col. D. Lowery, of the 2d Alabama Regiment; and consists of a Steam-Engine-two-lathes-planing machines-shears-drill-stocks-tit-hammer, moulds-casting-flasks, and the appurtenances of a Foundry. In its present condition and locality, it is entirely useless, and is exposed, in danger to injury from neglect-but to destruction by the enemy in the event of a renewed bombardment of the Navy-Yard. As it is highly important that machinery-so valuable, and greatly needed, should be removed to some place of greater security-and where it could be put into operation. At Montgomery there are large buildings-formerly used as iron-works-and machine-shops-now vacant, where a factory might readily be established-which might be procured for such a purpose. If, however, the present exigencies prevent the adoption of such a course by the Government, I am desired to suggest that this machinery should be turned over to the State, during the war, for the purpose of establishing a factory of arms here-or at some other point within it. If the machinery should be removed at the end of the War, unless some final transfer of it to the State should be made. If this suggestion should meet the approval of the Government, it is hoped that the necessary orders for its execution, will be issued immediately

Very Respy, Yr obt Servt

(signed) J. J. Seibels

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, March 17th 1862.

Mr. Wm H. Haseltine, Columbus, Geo.

Sir,

In compliance with your request and instructions, I herewith enclose you my Express $. 3.806.73.— the amount of your account, for Bacon-purchased by Col. Echols, for the State, the receipt of which acknowledge.

Very Respy.

(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, March 18th 1862.

Dr. Wm. G. Moore, Warden of the Penitentiary;

Sir, The important work being carried on, at the Penitentiary, under the contract between the late Legislature, and the Commissioners, and the Contractors, should be continued, and the interests of the State carefully guarded. Confidently relying upon your known well-tried fidelity & energy, and anxious, that the plans & contracts entered into, should be carried out, I have to request that you will

Very Respy

Jno Gill Shorter

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, March 18th 1862

Cadet Albert Phelan is appointed Drill-master, to drill the new Companies recently furnished by this State, in Pensacola.
You will please report to Col. J. M. Jones, Commanding.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter. C

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, March 18th 1862.

Col. Jno. M. Jones, Head-Quarters, &c. Pensacola.

Sir,

I have the pleasure to introduce Cadet Phelan, as having been detailed as Drill-master to drill any new troops, in Squad & Company Drill, as far as he can. He will report to you. He is one of our best families, & well instructed in drill-tactics, I hope you may make him useful, in developing the fine material, I have sent you.

Very Respt'y
Your obt Servt.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter. C

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, March 18th 1862.

Lieutenant Walter Guild is appointed Drill-master, and assigned to duty at Pensacola, where he will proceed, & drill Squads & Companies of Alabama Volunteers, there encamped.
He will report to Col. J. M. Jones, Commanding.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter. C

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, March 18th 1862

His Excellency, John Milton, Governor of Florida.

Sir, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th inst, introducing Mr D. Papy, Esq: and also of a communication from him of the 12th inst addressed to me, during my visit to Pensacola & Mobile, to confer with Genl J. Jones, C. S. A. Concerning their defence. In reply to Mr Papy's letter, it gives me pleasure to inform you that Pensacola will not be evacuated, unless it should become an imperious military necessity. There are at present there, two Mississippi Regiments and an Alabama Battalion, & from I have reinforcing as rapidly as possible by Volunteers for the war, under the last Confederate requisition, and by thirty-days' men called for, by me, with earth, in order to retain that position. There will be, therefore, no guns to be removed from there, & all those in battery commanding the entrance to the Harbor, will be retained and more removed, except a few long-range guns not needed for defence and required at other points, by the Confederate Government. This course was determined upon, after a full consultation with Genl Jones. I have appointed Col. Wm H. Chambers, and Dr Wm H. Thornton, of Eufaula, Ala. Agents for the State, who will confer and cheerfully co-operate with those of Florida & Georgia, in the execution of any defensive measures that may be agreed upon. The combined efforts of the three States, it is sincerely to be hoped, may result in the perfection of some plan of obstructing the river which will prevent the ingress of the enemy. Be certain, that without unnecessary, & common sense actions, it cannot be done. Your Excellency may rely upon my assurance that what Alabama can do, in such a case, will be cheerfully & promptly done." I have well done - now let it done quickly"
I have the honor to be, Sir Very Resp't, Most Obt Sert
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter. C

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, March 21st 1862.

Hon. L. P. Walker, Pensacola, Florida.

Dear Sir,

Should this find you at Pensacola, you will receive mine of this date, upon the subject of Engineering Corps for that place, but the boats for the transportation of troops will be sent direct to Mobile. The order is now being executed. I must send several thousand troops down there, so soon as possible. If you don't go to Pensacola — which, I don't see, will have any bearing — you will start your Engineering Corps to Mobile.

Please do present Major Gen. Bragg my best regards.

Very truly, yours,
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, March 21st 1862.

Lieut. Col. John F. Morgan,

Dear Sir,

I thank you for your interesting and valuable letter of the 21st inst. In reply, have to say that I want a first rate Civil & Military Engineer, who understands field-work & fortifications, and who can devote his whole time to our State. I hope it may be in your power, to obtain one the services of one, or both of the gentlemen you mention, immediately. Please see Lieut Blandford or Mr. Heiss — one or both, and invite them to visit me, to that end to visit our rivers. If possible, have one to come immediately.

Very truly, yours,
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, March 21st 1862.

His Excellency Thos. O. Moore, Governor of Louisiana,

My dear Sir, This State has not been threatened as yet with an invasion, and we hope it never may be, but it is impossible — that absolutely necessary, that we should effect its removal to this State. For this purpose, I have sent Gen. Bragg, the 2-in-Com. of Gen. to New Orleans, to make such arrangements, & invite such co-operation as may be necessary. I shall rely under many obligations, if you will assist him with your official influence — if necessary.

I have the honor to be
Dear Sir, (Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

78

Proclamation.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, April 1st 1862

Whereas, it has been made known to this Department that the Farmer's Bank of Alabama, a Bank duly organized under the free-banking act of this State, located in the City of Montgomery has fully complied with the provisions contained in the Proviso to the first section of "an act to authorise the several Banks thereinmentioned to suspend specie-payments", approved Nov 30th 1861.

Now Therefore, I, John Gill Shorter, Governor of the State of Alabama, do, hereby, declare and make known to all whom it may Concern that said Bank is entitled to all the privileges and immunities, conferred by law upon the Bank of Montgomery-or the Bank of Selma, and the privileges and immunities specified in the Act above-mentioned.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the great Seal of the State to be affixed, at the City of Montgomery, this first day of April, A.D. 1862. and of the Independence of the Confederate States of America, the Second year.

(Signed) John Gill Shorter.

By the Governor:

(Signed) P.A. Brittan, Secretary of State.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, April 1st 1862

To His Excellency-Johnson Hamilton, Governor of Florida.

Sir:

The Legislature of Alabama, at its last Session, enacted several laws for the encouragement of the manufacture of Salt in the State, and in pursuance of these, Contracts have been made for that purpose. It does not appear to me that the Saline Springs in the State-even if converted to the greatest advantage, would furnish a supply sufficient to meet the wants of the people, and our small coast of Coast closely watched by the blockading fleet of the Enemy-offered no secure shelter for the erection of Works for that purpose. I am inclined to think that Salt-works might be located upon the Coast of West-Florida-at a point remote from the ordinary Points of Visitation by the Enemy, where salt might be manufactured with comparative safety. I, therefore, invited the formation of a Company to manufacture Salt, exclusively, for the use of the State of Alabama, at such a place on the Coast of West-Florida, as might be deemed most suitable, by those engaging in the Enterprise, after a careful examination. A prerequisite to the organization of this Company will-of Course-be the consent of Your Excellency to certain conditions, necessary for the success of the undertaking. These would be to state them briefly-The exclusive use and Control of a certain area of the public Lands of Florida-with the right to use the Timber thereon for the manufacture of Salt until the raising of the blockade. This outpost would be Entirely subsidiary to the rights of the State-and the parties engaged subject to her Laws. These privileges would be necessary to secure the Company from molestation, or the intrusion of unauthorized persons within the Area-as the Enterprise progresses to its

they could desire at the termination of the blockade; it removes only such things - owned there by them - or as were attached to the Arsenal, and fit in manufacturing; with the company would be semi-military in its organization, for the purpose of self-protection, and might soon become of great service to Florida in certain emergencies.

While this Company would manufacture salt exclusively for the State of Alabama, and not for the benefit of those connected with the result of its successful operations, will be, indirectly, beneficial to the entire Country - by increasing the supply, and thereby diminishing in a corresponding ratio, the cost of an article so necessary to life.

In view of the necessities of this State, cut off - as it is - from every available means of supply - except the insufficient one derived from a few saline Springs - I hope the proposition will meet with your concurrence - and co-operation.

Hoping to hear from your Excellency, at the earliest moment on this subject -

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obt. Servt.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department.
Montgomery, Alabama, March 25th 1862.

Hon. S. R. Mallory, Secy of Navy, C. S. A.
Sir

I Harry Dent, 3d Asst Engineer in the Naval Service of the Confederate States, desires to be transferred from the Confederate States' Steamer Tuscarora - off Pilot Town - to the Gun-Boat Florida, now at Mobile. I would cheerfully recommend to your Department, that he be so transferred - if not incompatible with the interest of the public service.

Very respectfully, Your obt Servt.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department.
Montgomery, Alabama, March 31st 1862.

Capt. James A. Clendennin

Dear Sir,

The supply of Salt to the People of Alabama, is one of grave importance, and I address you, to suggest the propriety of forming a Company of patriotic Citizens, to engage in the manufacture of Salt - on a liberal scale - upon the Coast of Florida - with the consent of - and upon terms agreeable to - the Governor and authorities of that State.

I would be glad to encourage such a company, by a liberal advance from the State - payable in Salt - all of which I would contract to purchase for the State, upon such terms as shall afford a handsome compensation for such enterprise.

So soon as you can ascertain what the matter, and ascertain that a company or organization can be formed to go to work, with a fair prospect of success, I shall be pleased to hear from you.

Very respectfully,
Your S't
(Signed) John Gill Shorter.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, April 1st 1862

Messrs J. Frazer & Co, Tuscumbia, Ala.

Gentlemen,

I am informed that you have rec'd a large importation of Cotton Cards. There is a great need of them, in this State, and I beg to appeal to you, to allow me to purchase as many as you can spare - to be distributed, at convenient points, for sale among the People of Alabama, for family use.

Of course the Cards would be furnished to the people, at a uniform price, and that would be simply "cost & charges" paid by the State.

Hoping to hear from you - at an early day, I am, dear Sirs,

Very respectfully,
Your obt Servt
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, April 2d 1862.

Genl Duff C. Greene, 2. Inr. Genl Mobile.

Sir,

In reply to your letter of 29th ult. the Governor directs me to inform you, that your action for the repair & completion of of arms for service is approved; and he hopes that the work may be pushed forward with Vigor

Very respectfully, Your obt Servt.
(Signed) Jas S. Wright, Private Secretary

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, April 3d 1862

Capt. J. H. Hutt, A. A. A. General, Warrenton, Florida.

Sir,

I am, this moment, in receipt of your letter of 1st inst. & hasten to reply. The companies which were hurried off to Pensacola, were not accepted, by me, to organize into Regiments - they united agreeable to them. Patriotically consenting to go, at once - upon a pressing emergency, it would not be just to them to deprive them of the same right to enter into agreeable organizations of Regiments, secured to other Companies in Camp, within the State. In thus organizing the Regiments, I have deemed it proper to allow the Companies, where they can do so without public detriment, to fuse together - as they may prefer. Besides - in my interview with Brig. Genl - (now Maj. Genl) D. Jones) at Pensacola, on the 6th March, it was mutually agreed that any War-Companies which I should hurry down to Pensacola, should not be debarred the right of organizing into Regiments, upon the same terms which might be conceded to all the other Companies. This right - I must allow them to exercise, and, therefore, the Companies there, will be allowed to join the Regiments they may prefer; but - I have notified them - distinctly - that they will not be permitted to leave Pensacola, until I had a full Regiment or more - of War troops - ready to go down and occupy their places. The fact is, Sir, I have a number of companies would fuse into former Regiments there but now, I see, they will not. There are so many office-hunters - who are interesting rapid organization, that I am heartily annoyed. The Dispatch you speak of from Col. Hilliard, was wholly unauthorized. Say to my esteemed friend, Col. Jones that while I regret I cannot fuse the Companies there, I will not remove them or weaken his force, until I am ready - at the same time, to give him other troops. The necessity to complete my organization up the country - into which Companies - with you - will ultimately merge - they will be allowed to vote down there, but will not be removed until every thing is ready. Knowing the importance of standing firmly by the position, I shall do every thing in my power to strengthen and not weaken it; and you may assure Col. Jones, that, having the highest appreciation of his skill and energy, I am ready to befriend to any & all, within my ability, which he may make upon me.

I have, now, a six-pounder bras-piece with carriage & limber- I see you will remember- which was at Cahaba- which I will send down to Col Jones, if he desires it. Arrangements are, now, completed here, for casting this arm, and, if Col. Jones had sent- or will send- up the materials to Capt. Wagner, he can have it cast.

Very truly, yours
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, April 2d 1862

Col. L. T. B. Martin, Tuscaloosa,
My dear Sir,

When I first received your letter of the 18th ultimo- I had not, finally, agreed upon terms for Salt-petre manufacture, with Messrs Carlisle & Henderson, & they have not yet sent down their bond. On yesterday- a week ago- I was taken- down with an attack of fever, and have not been able to attend to business, until Yesterday. I did go I went up to the Capitol. I hardly know now- what to write you. The amount of advance now proposed, is out of my power to make, viz $35.000. If you establish the Powder-mill, I will, however, contract to buy & advance $25.000, to be repaid in powder, at the price paid by the Confederate Government- or I might be able to make it $10.000 or $15.000, more, if I could get the Confederate Government to take the supplies. The Salt-Petre from Santa Cruz I could receive, on paying cash for it, on delivery at Tuskumbia, very soon, but I tell you frankly- that the exposure of the works there to depredations from the enemy, may- after a few months- render the supply of Salt-petre uncertain. If the enemy should reach the Rail-Road, and cut of the transportation, the supply might cease. And if the enemy reached the Rail-Road, it is probable he would take possession of the works, and close them up. These are considerations- which you should not overlook in making up your estimates, for obtaining Salt-Petre. As to Sulphur- I am informed that the Company- mining for Sulphur, in Talladega Co. have contracted to deliver all they can make, to the Confederate government.

The difficulty or want, as I told you when here, is not the absence of Powder-mills- but the want of the materials- out of which to make the Powder. The mill at Augusta, I am told, can manufacture all the material to be had. Still- as an Alabamian I shall be gratified to see a mill established in our own State; and I would take the responsibility to aid the Enterprize further than the limited appropriation made by the Legislature would justify. And yet- as a personal friend to you, I deemed it my duty to tell you, frankly, the condition of things as they are; and the uncertainties of the future. Of course, no bond or Contract can be drawn up, until all the preliminaries are fully understood & settled.

Very truly yours, (Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, April 2d 1862.

Brig. G. Gorgas, Ordnance Department, Richd, Va. Sir,

I have, before me, your letter of the 28th ulto. making certain enquiries concerning the Ala. Arms-manufacturing Company. This Company is incorporated, under the laws of this State, and it is composed of a number of true enterprising, worthy gentlemen. They have just organized- and, I presume, it will take some time for them to turn-out arms finished & complete according to Army-regulations. The length of time will depend upon the success they meet with in obtaining the Machinery. The Armory is to be by Contract with the State- a Government establishment, and the Company is to receive, by way of $250.000, by the State- to be repaid in the first arms made. [illegible]

ate Governments; and I shall be glad to know that the Confederate Government shall deal liberally with them, in encouraging an Enterprise so important, & likely to be so successfully conducted.

Very respectfully, Your obt Servt. (Signed) Jno Gill Shorter. C

Executive Department.
Montgomery, Alabama, April 3d 1862.

Capt. Jno. H. Mitchell, commanding "Jno Gill Shorter artillery"
Mobile Bend, Barracks.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your esteemed favor of the 24th ultimo, advising me that the members of the company, which you have the honor to command, have, unanimously, named their organization in compliment to myself.

This manifestation of kind remembrance & partiality, though undeserved by your patriotic men, impresses me with gratitude; and I beg to tender through you, to the officers and men of the "Jno Gill Shorter artillery" my profound thanks, for the distinction which they have thus conferred upon me.

The glorious "First Alabama Regiment" to which your Command has been attached, is destined to win-even brighter Laurels in the bloody Drama which is now being enacted; and, I doubt not, that your Command will contribute its full share, to make the "First Alabama" more illustrious in the future than it has been in the Past.

With my earnest prayers for the safety, efficiency and happy return of your Command, when Victory shall have crowned our arms, and my thanks to you personally, for the flattering tone of your Communication, I have the honor to be

Your Friend & obt Servt.
(Signed) Jno. Gill Shorter C

Executive Department.
Montgomery, Alabama, April 4th 1862

To Brig. Gen. Sam'l Jones, Commanding at Mobile &c

General,

In order to promote the manufacture of Salt-an article so highly important to the people of Alabama, and our army every-where, throughout the Confederate States, I have promised-as Governor of Alabama, to the "Alabama-Salt manufacturing Company" a corporate body-recently organized, within this State, for that purpose, that they shall be put & maintained in quiet possession of any part of the Coast of Alabama, either on the Bay of Mobile, or the Gulf of Mexico, which they may select for the Establishment of Salt-works; and so much there-of as may be necessary-proper for the successful prosecution of the manufacture of Salt.

This is to request of you, that, if it shall be necessary to exert military force, in any manner, to accomplish the object above-set forth, that you will furnish to said "Alabama-Salt-manufacturing Company" and their Agents, & Servants, all the aid, assistance & protection which they may require-for that purpose, namely, to take & maintain quiet possession, of any part of the Bay or Gulf-coasts, which may be necessary for the successful manufacture of Salt.

Very respectfully,

Your obt Servt.
(Signed) Jno. Gill Shorter. C

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, April 5th 1862.

Gen'l L. M. Pendleton, Secretary of War, C. S. A. Richmond.

Dear Sir,

I consider the maintenance of the possession of Pensacola, a matter of such prime importance, not only to Alabama and Florida, but to the Cause at large, that I must claim your attention to a few thoughts and suggestions upon the subject.

Pensacola is next to Norfolk, the most important point on our entire Seaboard, to hold, at this time. To us, as a possession — it may not be of any great importance; but to the Yankee Government, its importance, in view of their manifest designs, is incalculable. They want a Spacious & Safe Harbour, far South, for their vast naval armament. Here they may have it. It is the only one in the Gulf — to which their Large Ships can find access. When they get it — There is the Spacious bay to ride — in — the Navy-Yard to repair at — The fine Hospitals and other appointments, which cost the old Government millions of Dollars — the Extensive fortifications — already to their hands.

But again; They Cannot Summer at New Orleans — or Mobile — nor nor Savannah — nor Charleston. The Yellow-Fever will be a terror to them, and repel them. But at Pensacola, they can make safe & pleasant Summer-quarters. The healthfulness of the place has been tested by time and experience — and is established; and the Yankees, who have already spent one Summer at Pickens, will feel every confidence, in making Pensacola Summer-Quarters. No other place on the Southern Coast, with a roadstead for ships, can compare with it, for such a purpose. Put these two great facts together, & it is needless to Elaborate an argument. They speak for themselves. I will not weary you nor myself — by amplifying. This great and important Point can be securely held with 5000 men, properly armed & trained, against any force the Yankee Gov't can detach. for its capture; perhaps by land, but certainly, — by sea. But we are now ill-provided, if provision be not made — and that soon! our comparatively naked condition will be known to the invaders, they will make a stroke at us, and take us, as I fear, almost without a shew of resistance.

Let me state to you, plainly, what is needed to put the place in Condition of defence. P. 1st. We want a good Brigadier Gen'l — some man who will inspire Confidence & effect speedy organization. The gallant and worthy Col. — Who now Commands the post himself — feels this want. P. 2. We want small-arms for nearly half the troops now there — about thirty two hundred — & we need, permanently, at the post, 5000 small-arms. P. 3. We want one or two artillery Companies — & several Companies of Cavalry. P. Alabama is doing all she can; and she will readily furnish the men, if she can have the Effective co-operation of the C. S. A. I have this suggestion to make — for both present & future operations — in respect to Pensacola. Being a point of so great importance, a healthy Location, and accessible for stores and provisions, let it be made a Camp of Instruction for the Confederate service. Send new Regiments or Companies, as they are formed, to Pensacola — for drill. When sufficiently trained — retain them where they may be needed, and bring in others; keeping the Complement at 4000 — or 5000 men. In this way the Post can be maintained, and the new levies of Alabama — and adjoining States, furnished with a most Eligible Camp of instruction. P. I do not wish to seem importunate, but, feeling persuaded — as I do — that 5000 men will not be able to repair the loss of a Port which 5000 men could thus hold safely — I hope I will be excused for any seeming importunity. From Pensacola, in the hands of the Enemy, the whole great producing — Country of Middle Alabama — can be so threatened, and its Railroad communications so constantly menaced, as

84

for, at little or no cost to the Invader. while Kentucky, Tennessee, and parts of North Carolina & Virginia South Carolina, Cost to us, what are we to do for food, if Middle Alabama is seriously disturbed?

I remain, with very great respect,
(signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

P.S. If the Secretary will furnish arms, I will furnish 5000 Men for us for the post without delay, with the troops already there, included.

(signed) Jno Gillshorter.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, April 4th, 1862.

Col. Wm M. Byrd, Selma,

Sir,

I am just this moment, in receipt of your favor of 2d inst. Sorry you have had any difficulty; Volunteers are hard to control. I had purposely avoided this department with any personal Complications with gentlemen, however patriotic their purposes. I yield, however to none, in my deep anxiety and resolute purpose to advance the Common Cause.

Mr Hardy tendered a company of 90-day Volunteers, from Dallas and Bibb. I had called for them from these Counties. It was my duty to accept them. It was not in my power - if I were so disposed - to control the Volunteers as to the Companies they go in. The first Company they join is entitled to hold them.

I sent no dispatch to Mr Hardy, except the one accepting his Company - that I remember. In reply to Col. Harrison's letter, I telegraphed him, that Dallas Co. would be credited with every Volunteer - for 90 days, - who left it; and it is immaterial what Company they go in - so far as the Credit is concerned. Is not this right? Should the County not be thus credited? It would be unjust to the County to withhold such credit. The Col. Each man a Volunteer Company. If the men volunteered & organized by Electing officers, every man, participating in the Election, is bound to the Company - unless, before that, he had bound himself in a similar way, to some other Company; and - if thus bound - he is subject to the order of his Captain. If Hardy's Company was not organized at the time yours was, then any who had promised to join him, who united with your Company - and participated in its organization, by by voting for officers, would, in my opinion, belong to your Company and could not, afterwards, without your consent.

I hope you may yet fill up your Company - but if you cannot - I will accept it, under the circumstances, with the men you have - and you can proceed to Mobile, at once.

Truly yours, (signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, April 5th 1862

Hon. W. H. Mandeville, Speaker of the House of Repts.

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit herewith, for the action of the General Assembly, a Message and accompanying documents, relative to the call upon this State, for twelve Regiments for three years or the War, found necessary because, in the Companies which had been mustered into the service of the United States from Alabama Volunteers, and there re-enlisted, and were then on their way to the Capital of the United States, for the purpose of being mustered into the service of the United States, a large number of the members of the Companies, refused to re-enlist in the Regiment in which their Companies were, had been commissioned - and after the Companies had been mustered into the service of the United States - a few days before the Regiment was ordered to Virginia - refused to go, unless certain changes in the position of the Captains of the

and to secure the soldiers who have remained in defence of their homes & families. The withdrawal of the men, above named, would have reduced the Company above the prescribed minimum, and prevented the Consummation of the Regimental organization. They are permitted thereto remain in the Company. A Regiment of the finest quality, with Col. Shelley as its Commander, has been organized, and is now ready for active service. Their term of service - at last two months men will expire in a few weeks.

In Consideration of these facts - I hope you will pardon any irregularity which may have supervened in the organization of the Regiment - and permit the men to remain where they are. The men are, certainly, not to blame.

Very Respfly, your obt Servt (Signed) Jno Gill Shorter -
Executive Department
Montgomery - Alabama, April 4th 1862.

Special Order No 1.

It is hereby ordered that Hannah Cannidee - a Convict in the Penitentiary, be, forthwith committed to close Confinement in his Cell, until the next Term of the Circuit Court of Coosa County, and that he be then remanded to said County to be tried for killing A. Pennington, late keeper of the Penitentiary.

(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.
Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, April 4th 1862.

Special order No 2.

It is ordered that Disabon Nunn - and George Parrott, convicts in the Penitentiary, who assisted in subduing Hannah Cannidee - while engaged in killing the late keeper, be forthwith Pardoned - restored to all the rights of citizenship and released from further confinement in the Penitentiary -

(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.
Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, April 6th 1862.

Special order No 3.

It is hereby ordered, that the Gentlemen - and all proper officers of the Penitentiary - who have or may have the direction and Control of the Convicts, shall shoot down any and all Convicts, who may engage in any riot or acts of Disloyalty to the Warden or other Authorities of said Institution.

(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Proclamation by the Governor of Alabama.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, April 10th 1862

Notwithstanding the urgent appeals which have been made in every form, by the press - by our public officials - including the Proclamation, which had heretofore issued from the Executive Department, and notwithstanding the plain course of action - which the present demand - I have been pained to hear that there are some among us, who, disregarding every other Consideration, but selfishly pandering their own sordid interests, are preparing to sell their cotton - instead of a provision - crop. Such people are to be met in this - their own chosen field - and should be held up to the odium and condemnation of their fellow - citizens. Against them the people of every Local & General Police, and all loyal citizens, in their respective capacities, are called upon to use every proper means, & if it be necessary, even to withdraw the ordinary and perfect protection of the law, to the end that the interests of the country may be promptly secured. [illegible]

the blessing of God, to Rebuke, those disloyal & unpatriotic men, who have no right to disregard the public welfare in Seeking their Just and Seek their advancement of individual & selfish ends, when they conflict with a policy upon which our whole army depend, for the subsistance of our army and people.

I hereby give notice that I shall urge, upon the next Session of the General Assembly, the duty and wisdom of Laying all Cotton beyond what may be needed for Home Consumption and the supply of seed for another year, to the full extent of its value; and I think if every man pretable, that planters who will persist in planting the usual Crop of Cotton - or more than one acre to the hand, will not be allowed to enjoy the fruits of such a selfish & unpatriotic course.

In testimony whereof I, John Gill Shorter, Governor of the State of Alabama, have hereunto set my hand - and Caused the great Seal of the State to to be affixed - this the 10th day of April, A.D. 1862.

By the Governor: (Signed) John Gill Shorter

Attest: (Signed) P. A. Britton Secretary of State.

N.B. The Newspapers throughout the State will publish the above Proclamation, one week, and forward their accounts, to the Executive Office,

(Signed) Jas. J. Albright, Private Sec'y.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, April 22nd 1862.

Lieut. Gen. Davis,
President C. S. A.
Richmond, Virginia.

Sir, I addressed a communication to the Sec. of War, a short time since, upon the situation of affairs at Mobile & Pensacola, to which - in connection with this, I respectfully, beg leave to call your attention.

Since then I have visited both places, and now, in reference to Pensacola especially, respectfully, make some statements, and offer some suggestions.

The Situation of affairs at Pensacola is not, at all Satisfactory.

We have, present about 3000 men, and of these about one half only, are armed.

We are under the command of an officer of the rank of Brigadier General, who has had no military training, master, & subsequent experience - second to none in command - feels and admits the need of such men especially much as any one else. Brig. Gen. Forney - who was ordered to report to Maj. Gen. Sam. Jones - at Knoxville - I learn, which position he at present occupies. I had received the resignation of Col. Lomax - and Lt. Col. Jones from the regiments, for the service, and it was impossible for the Surgeon to say, within the month or six weeks time, as to the general character and condition of the sick, as many were sick, and others were reported sick to get off duty. We are armed, with Smooth bore muskets, with cartridges, and if the attack be made at close quarters, would prove very valuable for the defense of a fixed position, but for the purpose of a flying force would be worthless. Col. Lomax, with his command, is now at Mobile, and Col. Jones, with his command, is now at Pensacola. Finally, I am informed by Lt. Col. Jones, that he has but

demand by Col. Jones. that is done must be done soon. The enemy, I fear, understand the situation of affairs with us, & are acting with vigor as well as awkwardness, and doubtless, are only awaiting to dispose of some other part of their Programme.

The importance of Pensacola to the Cause at large, and especially to Mobile and Southern Alabama and Mobile cannot be over-estimated. With a good General and a well-organized force there, it could be maintained in any opinion, against any but an overwhelming force. Surely, it is worth the effort, even at eight, matters are pressing elsewhere, that will secure that much.

From information on which I rely, I respectfully suggest to the President, that in organizing any Alabama Regiment at Pensacola, it would receive the services of a valuable officer, if he would name Capt. John R. Hartsell — now probably at Norfolk — as Colonel of a Regiment. We have good raw material, but are very much in need of well-trained and competent Officers. I do not know him personally, but being anxious for the Cause only, and relying upon such information as I can trust, I am desirous of seeing him placed in Command of an Alabama Regiment at Pensacola.

I am doing what I can to gather arms & furnish to the men at Mobile and Pensacola, country rifles and double-barrelled shot guns nicely repaired, but this — with powder & lead & caps & other things from the East in the way of arms, will fall far short of our necessities.

With undiminished Confidence I have the honor to be
Your Excellency's obt Servt
(Signed) Ino Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, April 22, 1862

Dear Sirs,

The Executive of the State has been informed that you as lessees of a salt-well and fixtures on Clarke County, have a surplus of water which is now being manufactured into salt. The great want and dearth of salt in the Confederate States is becoming a source of serious apprehension and alarm with all patriots, and it behooves every well-wisher of our glorious cause to increase, by every available means, the production of this article of prime necessity.

Appreciating as I do the just cause of this public apprehension, I, as the Executive of the State, have felt it my duty to call about me as good Citizens, and press upon your consideration the absolute necessity that the quantity of salt within the reach of the people of Alabama be largely increased. Supposing my information to be correct, as to the surplus of salt-water on your lease, I indulge the hope that you will be able, & consequently duty, to enlarge your works to the utmost capacity of the water you have. Should this not be the case — and should a favorable report be made to you from a responsible source, to employ and make available this surplus water — such preparations to be made and just in its terms — and should you decline to accept such proposition: then I, as the Executive of the State, will feel it my duty to seize your works, as a Military — Public necessity, that the same may be made contributory to the public welfare.

Hoping and will confidently anticipating an affirmative answer from you at your earliest convenience. Your Resp. Obt. Servt
(Signed) Ino Gill Shorter.

Messrs Lewis,
Enfield &
Pizarro &
Clark Kearney,
Lessees &c

88

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama April 25th 1862.

Maj. Gen. G. T. Beauregard, Commdg of Army, Richmond, Miss.

Sir,

I herewith have the honor to submit accompanying documents received from Gen. Goldthwaite touching the case of Chas. H. Kellogg who was arrested by Gen. Beauregard's order, within our lines near Corinth, and sent in charge of a guard to this place, being now under surveillance of the Provost Marshall, by orders from Maj. Gen. Jones.

Mr. Lapsley - the writer of the letter to Judge Goldthwaite, is a gentleman - well known to me, of the highest respectability and position - an old resident of the State - and of unimpeachable loyalty. I know the genuineness of his letter, and have no hesitation in vouching for every fact stated by him - as of his own personal knowledge; neither have I the slightest doubt of the genuineness of the other letters - compared copies of all of which - including that of Mr Lapsley - are submitted; the originals being retained in my possession.

I trust that it will not be deemed improper for me to say - that the correspondence of Mr Kellogg - as explained by the letter of Mr Lapsley, has produced upon my mind a strong conviction, that the party referred to had no object or purpose - prejudicial to the interests of the Confederate States, but that he is, at heart, well affected to the cause, & would rejoice in our success.

I shall forward copies to Gen. Beauregard.

I have the honor to be &c -

Very Respectfully,

Your obt servt

(Signed)

Jno. Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, April 25th 1862

Maj. Gen. G. T. Beauregard, Corinth, Miss.

Sir, I herewith have the honor to submit accompanying documents - rec'd from Gen. Goldthwaite - touching the case of Chas. H. Kellogg, who was arrested, by your order, within our lines, near Corinth, and sent in charge of a guard - to this place, being now under surveillance of the Provost-Marshall, by orders from Maj-Gen. Jones. Mr Lapsley - the writer of the letter to Judge Goldthwaite, is a gentleman - well known to me, of the highest respectability and position - an old resident of the State - and of unimpeachable loyalty. I know the genuineness of his letter, and have no hesitation in vouching for every fact stated by him, as of his own personal knowledge. Neither have I the slightest doubt of the genuineness of the other letters - compared copies of all of which - including that of Mr Lapsley - are submitted; the originals being retained in my possession. I trust that it will not be improper for me to say, that the Correspondence of Mr Kellogg - as explained by the letter of Mr Lapsley - has produced upon my mind a strong conviction, that the party referred to had no object or purpose, in view - prejudicial to the interests of the Confederate States, but that he is, at heart, well affected to the Cause, & would rejoice in our success. I shall forward copies to the Sec'y of War.

I have the honor
to be,
Very respectfully
Your obt Servt

(Signed) Jno. Gill Shorter.

Executive Department

Montgomery, Alabama, April 24th 1862.

The presence of the Enemy upon the northern frontier of this State, demands the prompt & united efforts of our people, for the protection of their homes. The fore instant threatens us not only for conquest but for plunder; and he will doubtless send out foraging parties to pillage the country contiguous to his armies. To repel these marauding expeditions, I accept a partizan Cavalry force, under the Command of bold and discreet leaders, who will hang upon the Enemy's border, and secure Fortunes and property of our people against depredation. For this service, I will accept four Cavalry Companies; to consist of not less than eighty nor more than one hundred men rank & file. The Companies must find clothing equipage and arms themselves, but they will be subsisted and paid by the State, in accordance with the army regulations of the Confederate States.

These Companies must consist of men, who are not subject to Conscription under the recent act of Congress. They will be mustered into the service of the State of Alabama, for the term of four months, unless sooner discharged.

Each Company will elect its own officers, subject to the ratification of the Governor. The Companies will act independently, and their efficiency will depend upon the proper qualification of the Company officers. Each Company will be entitled to elect One Captain, one first Lieutenant, and two second Lieutenants. The non-commissioned officers will be appointed by the Captain & will consist of five Sergeants & four Corporals.

It is desirable that each man should, if possible, provide & bring with him twenty rounds of ammunition suitable to his gun, before leaving home & furnish his bullet moulds and powder flask. If the men cannot provide themselves, the State will furnish each man with a Long Range Rifle.

As soon as the requisite number of men have been obtained, the Companies will forward their muster-Rolls to the Adjutant General, & they will be, immediately ordered into service.

In Testimony whereof I, John Gill Shorter, Governor of the State of Alabama, have hereto set my hand, and affixed the great Seal of the State, this 24th day of April, Eighteen Hundred & sixty two.

(Signed) John Gill Shorter.

P. H. Britton, Secretary of State.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, April 25th 1862.

Maj. Saml B. Marks, Chief of Ordnance for Alabama.

Sir,

I am in receipt of your note of this date, tendering your resignation, as Chief of Ordnance for the State of Alabama. I sincerely regret the ill health which has imposed this necessity upon you.

In accepting your resignation, allow me to say that the duties of Obligation I feel for the ardent patriotism which induced you to take charge of ours and responsible duties, & to make personal inconvenience and sacrifices, and for the fidelity & efficiency with which you have, so ably & gratuitously performed them.

With high regard, I am,
Dear Sir, very truly
Your friend & obt Servt.

(Signed) John Gill Shorter.

90
54

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, April 25th 1862

Hon. L. P. Walker
Montgomery.

Sir,

The position of chief of Ordnance for the State of Alabama, having been vacated by the resignation of Maj. Sam'l B. Marks, this day, tendered and accepted, I beg to request that you will receive for an appointment to fill the vacancy. If agreeable to you to do so, I hope you will notify me of your acceptance - and enter, at once, upon the duties of the office.

On presentation of this letter to Maj. Marks, he will be authorized to turn over to you, all Arms & Ordnance-Stores in his possession, together with the books, and other memoranda, in his possession - appertaining to the same.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient Servant
(Signed)
Jn° Gill Shorter.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, April 26th 1862

His Excellency Joseph E. Brown, Gov. of the State of Georgia
Sir,

The mail brought me a letter from Rome Geo, a copy of which I herewith beg to enclose for your consideration. The suggestions I deem important, but it would be indelicate in me, to make any suggestions to the Secretary of War in relation to the Cavalry Regiment of Col. Morrison camped at Canterville, without communication with you. If that Regiment, however, is armed, and could be encamped at Rome, and employed in Scout-duty on your State-Road and in North-East Alabama, it might, in this way, render valuable services.

I am organizing here a Cavalry Regiment for Confederate service, which will, likely, be full next Week, and when the Government equipts and arms it, the Regiment might be employed - and should be employed in Scout-duty in the Northern part of the State, and thus Co-operate with Col. Morrison's Regiment, if the Secretary of War shall so order.

With high regards, I am Your obt. Serv't.
(Signed) Jn° Gill Shorter.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, April 25th 1862.

Hon. G. W. Randolph, Secretary of War, Richmond, Virginia.

Sir,

I have the honor to inclose you, herewith, a copy of a letter received at this Department, and, respectfully, to call your attention to the suggestions of the same. Under the last requisition made upon this State for troops, a Regiment of Cavalry was required for the Confederate service, and will be organized in few days. I would respectfully suggest that this Regiment be armed as speedily as possible, and employed in giving protection to North-Alabama and the heavy interests - State & Confederate - at Rome, Georgia.

Very Resp'y
Your obt Serv't.

(Signed) Jn° Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, April 28th 1862.

Brigadier Genl John M. Forney,
Head-quarters, Mobile, Alabama;

Sir:

My Special Aid, Major H. Walker, is directed to report to you at your Head-Quarters at Mobile — to co-operate with you, in any measures for the defence of the State. He is charged with important Communications for your Consideration, and will confer freely, with you, and advise you of my earnest desire to obtain your assistance in completing the battery at Fort-Goddard, and at Blakely; and in procuring Guns for batteries on the Alabama and Tombigbee Rivers. In regard, to the present aspect of affairs, the construction of these defences is of vital importance to the State.

Respectfully, Yours
(Signed) John Gill Shorter.

Executive department
Montgomery April 30 1862.

Gentlemen,

I have commissioned you as the 2d Lieut. and duly received acknowledging mine that the Governor, Gen. Staff, Ala. Vol. to command, from the Shorter Dragoons, to be formed of the counties of Montgomery, Lowndes, Dallas, Perry, Bibb, Autauga, Coosa, Tallapoosa, Macon, Barbour, Russell, Henry, Pike, Coffee, Dale, Henry, Barbour, Russell, Macon, Tallapoosa, Coosa, Autauga, Bibb, Perry, Dallas, Lowndes, Montgomery, Alabama,

resist all applications to resign, with a view to enter the Army. It had appeared to me that the[se] trained young men could be more good in their present position, than in any other suitable to their age, and that it would be a public calamity to disband them

But, under the Conscription Law about three fourths of these Cadets must pass at once, into the Army of the Confederate States. This will, effectually, break up the Corps, and close the doors of the University.

Besides, these Cadets will enter the service under circumstances which will bear hardly upon them. They have been eager to enter the Volunteer service, in which perhaps every one of them would have received a Lieutenancy. This, we have resisted until now, when all the Volunteer Companies are organized, and their opportunity of promotion is lost. They have drilled the 12000 Volunteers of the State, & now, must go into the rank and file of the army.

Under these circumstances I hope that you will be able to devise some Relief for the present Corps: and to institute such measures, as will enable the Superintendent to keep up the operations of the Institution during the War.

I refer you more particularly, to Dr Garland, for information, and for the suggestion of such measures as may meet the necessities of the case.

With great respect, I am
Your obt Serv[t]
(signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, May 2[o] 1862.

Commodore U. M. Randolph,
Flag- Officer, Mobile, Ala.

Sir,

I have had the pleasure to read your letters of the 27[th] Ult[o] to you R. M. Randolph, of this City, and have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your communication of 28[th] Ult[o] addressed to myself, for all of which, I am greatly obliged. I heartily concur with you, in the expressed purpose & desire, if the Enemy obtain possession of Mobile, to fortify and obstruct the Alabama and Tombecbee rivers, so as to prevent their ascent into the interior of the State; & I will co-operate with Confederate Naval & military authorities, to the full extent of my ability, in effecting such desirable results. The Committee of Safety of this City have been considering plans for obstructing the Alabama River, and closing the Channel at the proper time; but there seems to be much difficulty in agreeing upon a plan which may be practicable, efficient and capable of execution within the limited time which may be left us for its consummation. If you can give us any suggestions, to aid in the selection & adoption of the best means to this end, I will be very thankful for such assistance. Hon. A. J. Walker, Chief Justice of our Supreme Court and Dr Robert J. Ware, will wait upon you immediately, with authority to act in the premises, after consultation with you & Brigadier Gen[l] Forney. It is most desirable that our Naval & Military and State authorities should all harmonize & co-operate, understandingly, in this important Crisis, and I entertain no doubt but that such agreement can be had

I will reply to your most reasonable proposition, to turn over the iron-clad Ram the old Baltic — I beg leave to say, that there is a consideration connected, which I will state, involving a question of much delicacy, and embarrassing my action somewhat, and will enable you to appreciate my position. The appropriation of $150.000 was made by the Legislature at Montgomery, on application of Citizens of Mobile, to provide an iron-clad Ram for the defense of the waters of Mobile Bay; & Commissioners of Gentlemen of high character were authorized to receive

the money, and were charged by the act with its proper disbursement. Their solicitations communicated by me to the Secretary of the Navy — Lieut Brownton — who had made valuable suggestions in the repairs — and alterations of the boat — was received of the Command of the Gun-Boat Gaines, and directed to report to me with the understanding that I would assign him the Command & superintendence of the repairs of the boat until completion and then turn over the boat to the Confederate Navy — to be manned by the Navy. Under this arrangement & understanding between the Secretary of the Navy and the Committee in Mobile, Lieut Brownton assigned his present position. In the prosecution of the work, he is assisted by this Committee; the Carpenters and Shipwrights reside in Mobile; and the Committee pay that the boat should not be moved away up the River, at least for the present; assuring me, however, that arrangements are made, in case of danger, for her prompt removal out of reach of the Enemy. If this point be secured — your wishes will be met. The Secretary of the Navy, I understood, over six weeks ago, had ordered heavy guns to be sent at Richmond, for this Ram, and I had hoped they would have been received by this time. The moment the Boat approached that Completeness, which will fit her for service, it is my purpose, promptly to turn her over to your Navy, and to order Lieut. Brownton to report to you, for duty. If, in the meantime, you can procure suitable Guns and ammunition for the armament of the Boat, I will thank you to do so.

I have telegraphed both the War & Navy Departments, to furnish guns to plant in battery on the Alabama & Tombeckbee Rivers — and hope this proper request may be favorably & immediately answered.

I beg to communicate to you herewith confidentially a sketch of a Torpedo-gun-Boat, devised by Dr Jno W. Read of Tuscaloosa — the inventor of the "Read-Shell." I am not capable of passing upon its merits. Accompanying the sketch is a description of the Torpedo-attachment, and the manner of its application and use. I submit it for your consideration, and such action as you may be pleased to take, in relation to it.

With great respect, I am, Dear Sir,
Your Obt Servt
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.
Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, May 2d 1862.

To His Excellency, Gov. Pickens,
Sir.

I have to apologize for not having replied, at an earlier day, to your Excellency's Communication of the 22d March. Almost immediately after its reception, I was called away by official engagements, and apprehending that I should not be able to give your Suggestions the consideration which they merited, I requested a Confidential friend to reply to your letter during my absence. Until my return, recently, I was not apprized that the friend, upon whom I imposed that duty, had been prevented, by ill-health, from writing to you.

Your views as to the importance of sustaining the Government by the energetic & candid co-operation of the Merchants & other Citizens; and I am gratified to learn the sources of this State, in any system of operations, which may be agreed on, as necessary to the success of this great Revolution. I believe that the harmonious — determined — & resistant Sentiment of the States, to sustain the present Government, will be required to achieve success; and to that end, I am ready to command the last man, the last dollar, and all the resources of this Commonwealth. I am prepared, I trust, not only to meet — but to co-operate with your Excellency, in thus doing the things which are best calculated [illegible] the interests

action of the different States, and the most perfect combination of all our means of defence.

The privilege, by the Confederate Congress, of the law of Conscription will, to a considerable extent, supersede the necessity of State-action on that subject. We may opinion, however, the entire white male population capable of bearing arms, should be enrolled; and I am preparing with that view, a system by which, I hope to organize, and, as far as possible, arm and drill all of that Class in the State, who are not subject to Conscription, under the act of Congress. My purpose will be, if possible, to make a Soldier of every man left in the State, and to secure such an organization as will make the entire population available for defence, wherever the State is invaded. The scarcity of arms and ammunition is a serious difficulty, in carrying out this policy, but I am sparing no exertions to collect & repair all the common arms of the Country: and I hope in this way, to be able to arm a large proportion of the force thus left for Home-defence.

The resources of this State for the manufacture of almost every requisite for War-purposes, are, perhaps, unsurpassed, but they are, to a great extent, undeveloped. The War has done much for us; Capitalists are investing, largely, in manufactories of arms of every kind - of Salt-Petre & Sulphur - and the workings of Lead-mines. We have not - however - realized much yet, from these Sources. Unfortunately for us, the impression has, very generally, prevailed - until lately, that the War would be of short duration, and that the raising of the blockade, by foreign intervention, would afford us access to the Markets of Europe; and, on this account Capitalists have hesitated to embark in Enterprises for the manufacture of Articles of prime necessity to us. The Legislature of the State made Considerable appropriations to encourage private Enterprise, but these appropriations, owing to the impression, to which I have alluded, fall far short of our necessities. I have made Contracts, wherever it was possible to do so, for the manufacture of guns, but the deliveries, under these Contracts, have not yet Commenced. One establishment, with which I had Contracted for the manufacture of five thousand Mississippi Rifles, the first of which were to have been delivered by this date, had been forced to remove its machinery to Georgia, in Consequence of the invasion of our Northern Counties by the Enemy, and I shall, on that account, be subjected to considerable delay in receiving the arms. I have, also, had made a considerable number of pikes & bowie-knives which are now ready for use. A large factory of arms is about being established, under the patronage of the State, which, it is probable, from the character of those engaged in it, will soon be put in operation. It is probable that the Combination of the States, in making arms, would greatly expedite the Equipment of our Soldiers. Different parts of a gun could be made from models, at different points, and sent to a Common Armory, for the purpose of being fitted together for Service. Such a division of Labor, could it be accomplished, would be beneficial in the highest degree. To adjust the details of such a scheme, would require time and a knowledge of the Capabilities of the States in Workmen, as well as materials.

We have, at present, only three foundries in the State engaged in Casting Cannon. Two others, which Contract large Cannon, and which are already supplied with Machinery, will, in a short time, be prepared to Commence operations and will, in a short time, be ready to furnish a return for any advance on account.

our resources for engaging in this branch of manufacture are almost unlimited. The mineral region of this State abounds in large quantities of iron-limestone and Coal. Nothing but a combination of skill & capital is required to convert these resources into an abundant supply of all the munitions of war. Contracts have already been made for the manufacture of Salt-Petre on a large scale; but the deficiency in the State, from which we had anticipated a supply of 500 Pounds daily, is written in the section now in the hands of the enemy. There are other matters presented in your Excellency's Communication, which are entitled to the gravest consideration. Such are your suggestions in reference to the purchase of arms abroad with Cargoes of Cotton, sent out under State-authority; and the adoption of some policy by which the credit, or paper obligations of the different States, shall be mutually sustained. For the purpose of discussing these and other matters, of vital importance to the success of the Revolution, I approve your suggestion, that the Executives of the different States should meet together at some convenient point; and I will take part in such a convention, at any point which may be selected. If, from your correspondence with the Governors of the other States, you have ascertained that such a Convention is practicable, I shall be happy to meet you in such an assembly, and shall submit to your Excellency the appointment of the time and place, at which it shall be held.

I have the honor to be,
with great respect
Your most obedient Servant
(signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, May 3d 1862

To His Excellency, Governor Brown,

Sir; I was applied to, some time since, by the Mayor of the City of Columbus, to know whether I would co-operate in a movement to defend the Chattahoochie River. In response to that application, I appointed two gentlemen to act, in concert, with Commissioners, who, I was informed, would be appointed by your Excellency and the Governor of Florida, upon similar applications from the City authorities of Columbus. I have been advised by the Gentlemen appointed on the part of this State, that, upon visiting the points which had been selected for defence, they were informed by Genl Trapier, of the C. S. Army, that the Confederate Government had undertaken the work of defending the River, and that it was the purpose of the Government to construct such fortifications and concentrate such a force upon the River, as would, effectually, secure the Country against invasion from that quarter. Since that time, however, it has been represented to me, that the defences of the River are in a very unsatisfactory condition, and, in consequence, considerable anxiety prevails among the people, on both sides of the River. While I have no apprehension that the enemy will attempt an invasion in force, from that direction, if it is possible, in view of the large amount of Cotton on the plantations and at the various Depots on the river, and the extensive manufacturing establishments at Columbus, that they may attempt a predatory raid into the Country, which might result in the destruction of a large amount of property. In consideration of these facts, I have thought it proper to bring this subject to your notice, with a view to some co-operative policy, which may be adopted by the two States, for the purpose of effectually fortifying or obstructing the River. The River is equally important to Georgia, and I have not, therefore, deemed it necessary to

take any steps in the matter, without the consent and co-operation of your Excellency. The people on both sides of the River are equally interested in securing the River against invasion. Inguarding other points, which may be considered of more vital importance, the Common Government may not be able to look after the local interests of every section of the Confederacy; and hence, without invading its policy for general Defense, we may concert such measures, as the interests of our people in particular localities, may require. I am prepared, therefore, to co-operate with your Excellency, in devising a system of Defense, for the Chattahoochie River; and, for that purpose, if my views meet your concurrence, I will appoint one or more Commissioners to represent this State, who, in concert with similar Commissioners on the part of Georgia, shall be authorized to undertake the work, and to do fully, whatever may be necessary in the premises.

Awaiting your Excellency's reply

I am Sir, Most Resp'y

(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter

Executive Department,

Montgomery, Alabama, May 3d 1862.

Genl L. M. Jenkins,

Head Quarters, 19th Brigade, &c.

Sir:

I am, to-day, in receipt of your letters of the 27th & 28th ult.o. and, in reply, have to say that I duly appreciate the unfortunate position of affairs detailed by you, and am sincerely anxious that the proper & most effectual means shall be adopted to meet the exigency. Col. Robt Jemison Jun., of Tuscaloosa, my special aid in N. W. Ala. had from a visit, recently, under orders from this Department, to the Counties mentioned by you, and has reported here, in person, and is fully possessed of all my views in reference to the important and delicate matters referred to in your letter. On this account, I have thought it best to forward your letters to Col. Jemison, for his consideration, & such action as, in accordance with my private & confidential interview with him, may be found most practicable & efficient. I hope this course may meet your own approbation, and advise that you may with unlimited confidence, consult with Col. Jemison.

Very Resp'y Your obt Servt.

(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department

Montgomery, Alabama, May 3, 1862.

Hon. Geo. W. Randolph,

Secretary of War,

Richmond.

Sir;

I have the honor to enclose you, herewith, an application for the transfer of four members of Capt. Amos' Company "The Simpson mounted Rangers." The grounds upon which this application is made, are as follow. 1st. The three first-named applicants are Citizens of Alabama, and are in a 12 months Florida Company. 2d. The Florida Company is re-organizing and Gentlemen wish to join "the Shorter Dragoons," a company in the 2d Alabama Cavalry Regiment first organized for three years or the War. 3d. Young Amos is a citizen of Florida, as I am informed, but wishes to join the same Company, and it is also the wish of his father, that he should do so. I earnestly recommend that the applicants be transferred to an organization from their own State

and if not incompatible with the public interest, would be pleased of the wishes of young Mines should be gratified.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient Servant
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.
Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, May 5th 1862.

Dr W. M. H. Rives, & Dr Jno B Higley Esq.
Gentlemen,

Professor John Darby goes to Choctaw County, by my authority, to explore the Coal region in that County, for the purpose of reporting to me the Capacity of the Coal there, for the manufacture of Salt. Will you be good enough to afford him all necessary facilities for obtaining the information desired. The services of Prof. Darby have been secured, for this purpose, by the State, and I wish him to make as thorough an exploration as possible. I desire that he shall examine all the Springs, which are now being worked, and also to survey the surrounding Country with a view to increasing the number of Springs.
During his stay, I commend him to your kind offices.
Very respt'y, Your's.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department
Montgomery, May 5th 1862

Brig. Genl John H. Forney, Mobile.

Sir:

Mr Lanier, bearer of this, has applied to me for a pass, to enable him to visit the Seaboard, which I do not like to give, & accordingly refer him to you. He is highly recommended by Lieut Col. Jones & Major Gee & Capt Hughes of the Choctaw Cavalry & I think the State will be benefitted by granting his request. You will please, upon the receipt of this, give him such order as you may think proper.

I am, Sir, Very Respectfully, Your obt Servt.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.
Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, May 5th 1862.

Brig. Genl J. H. Forney, Head quarters, Mobile.

Sir, I beg to introduce, to your favorable acquaintance, Capt. Peyton Randolph, who will confer, freely & fully, with you at my request, upon the subject of our river defences. I hope that you may agree, upon some disposition of Capt. Randolph's, by which the State can have the benefit of his skill and services, in the present emergency.

Very respectfully, your obt Servt.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

98

C.

Executive Department,
Montgomery May 5th 1862

Brig. Genl. Jno. B. Clark,
Head Quarters, Tallahassee,

Sir,

I beg to call your attention to your correspondence with the Secretary of War in relation to raising Regiments for the service of the State, and to request that you will furnish me with the number of companies you have raised, their location, and the time when they will be ready for service.

I also desire to know what progress you have made in the organization of the Regiment by the election of its field officers, and have directed Copies of the Commissions to be forwarded to you for that purpose.

Very Respectfully
Your obt. Servt.
(Signed) Jno. Gill Shorter.

C

City of Tuskaloosa, Ala. Sept 4th
Received May 5th 1862.
His Ex. Gov. Shorter.

The Secretary of War desires the Governor to call the attention of the General Commanding the Department, to take the necessary steps for the Safety of the Arsenal. It will be objected to have by your Excellency ordered Troops to Augusta Georgia & Greenville S. Carolina to Secure Gunpowder &c.

Very respectfully
Your obt. Servt.
J. H. Randolph,
Sec. of War

C

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, May 7th 1862

Hon. J. H. Randolph, Secretary of War, Richmond, Va.

Sir, Under the requisition made on the State of Alabama in February, to furnish twelve additional Regiments for the War, your predecessor Hon. J. P. Benjamin authorized the acceptance by me, of one or two Cavalry Regiments. I accordingly announced my purpose to accept one Regiment of Cavalry, and I now have to report the organization of this Regiment by the election of its field officers, and have directed Copies of the Company Rolls to be forwarded to your department.

This Regiment will, I hope, be ready, to leave us with our [illegible] equipped, and armed by the first of June. As this Regiment

ment of Cavalry, raised in Alabama, in addition to a number of Independent Companies, which have entered the service from this State. The First Regiment, commanded by Col. Claiborne, soon to be Colonel, was equipped & furnished Sabres by the Confederate Government, but furnished with Pistols - Carbines - and Shotguns, by the State. All the other Cavalry Companies were armed - in whole or in part, by the State. The 2d Regiment, now organized - must be armed by the Confederate Government. This State - now has no small arms, except Country rifles and shot-guns - limited in number - which it is my duty to retain within the limits of the State, for local protection and defense. If, in the great battle, now impending at Corinth, success shall crown our arms, as I hope & believe it will, by the blessing of God, then the War department may need this 2d Cavalry Regiment for other - and distant service; but should we lose the battle, the whole Northern portion of Alabama will be exposed to the ravages of the Enemy, and, in such contingency, I think I may with propriety, urge upon the department to assign one or both of our Cavalry Regiments to the defense of our own exposed localities. In that event - and to secure a most desirable purpose, the State would endeavor to aid, in arming, with shot-guns, the Cavalry force which might be retained within her borders. I need not remind you of the importance - and absolute necessity of a strong Cavalry force, in the mountains, to hold in check the Enemy's Scouts and mounted troops, who would endeavour to make descents upon - and destroy our iron-works & armories and foundries, located at Rome, Georgia - and in Cherokee - Talladega - and Shelby Counties in Alabama. We have, in our mountain Counties, also, Salt-petre caves - which are being worked; and lead & sulphur mines of great necessity & value. I hope - & doubt not that these considerations will be duly weighed by your department, in any future disposition which may be made of the Cavalry force of this State.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obt Servt
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, May 7th 1862.

To his Excellency, Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States.

Dear Sir,

I beg leave - as the Governor of Alabama, to bring to your notice, and recommend, as in every way, worthy of promotion, Private William H. Linebaugh, of Company D. 5th Alabama Regiment, Col. John A. Winston.

Private Linebaugh distinguished himself by an act of brilliant gallantry, on the 22d of December last, in a fierce Skirmish with the Enemy, at New-Market Bridge, on the Peninsula of Virginia, in which a portion of his Regiment was engaged. After driving the Enemy beyond the breach, over which stood the New-Market Bridge, young Linebaugh - and five or six others, charged a temporary redoubt, at the bridge, about one hundred yards in advance of his main position, driving the enemy from it, and taking one prisoner - the Color-Sergeant of the Liberty ——— New York Regiment. Young Linebaugh, after the surrender of the prisoner, crossed alone, on the remains of the bridge, to the redoubt - within the Enemy's lines - and in face of his pursuers took from the Redoubt, the Federal flag - and bore it back to his Command - the retiring object of the Enemy's fire for several hundred yards, the Bullets being so rapidly & without intermission poured upon him, that the cries of the men within the Enemy's lines

The Flag was received thankfully, and given to his Lieutenant and, by his Colonel, delivered to him, with instructions to bring it to his Father in Alabama. At my request, the Banner was yielded by the Secretary of the State, and is now preserved in her Capitol, as a cherished Souvenir of the heroism of her Son.

I am informed that his Conduct on the occasion was brought to the notice of his Superiors by Col. Winston, but of this I have no evidence; and mention it in my official Capacity, to ask that you may suitably promote him, assuring you that it will not confer more pleasure on me, personally, than it will be gratifying to the people of Alabama at Large.

He stands very high, as a young man & Soldier, with his Regiment officers and men; never having been, in nearly a years service, reported, and credibly informed— under arrest or reprimanded for the least neglect of orders— or violation of duty, and (which will, no doubt, be quite as gratifying to your Excellency) is irreproachable in manners and morals, being entirely free from all the habits of prevalent & popular vice and dissipation.

He is quick and intelligent in mind— and robust in person & health. Should it be within the legal discretion of your Excellency, I feel every confidence that it will give you pleasure to promote to a Lieutenancy, this very worthy young man; and this would be a more diference to me— and the people of Alabama, than a sincere desire, on your Excellency's part, to distinguish merit, and advance the best interests of the Army.

I have the honor to be
Your obt. Servt
(Signed) Jno. Gill Shorter

Executive Department.
Montgomery Ala. May 8. 1862

To the Honorable.
Mayor and Council of the City of Montgomery.

Gentlemen:

Herewith I send you an order which I have caused to be made for the removal of the Cotton stored in the City of Montgomery. This order has been made for the purpose of saving the City from fire in the event it should be necessary to burn the Cotton to prevent its falling into the hands of the enemy; and in which event it is designed for the benefit of the City. I think the City Authority should assume the payment of the Expense of removing it. I have no doubt you will take the same view of it, and I shall therefore, make the execution of the order dependent upon your action in the premises.

I have the honor to be
Your Obedient Servant
(Signed) Sudgate Shorter.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, May 8th 1862.

Hon. G. W. Randolph, Secretary of War, Sir,

I have the honor to enclose you herewith, the application of Mr. M. Holmes— ex-Sheriff of Henry County Alabama, for a discharge. Mr. Holmes volunteered in Co. A. 5th Regiment, Ala. Volunteers, before the expiration of his Term of office— leaving the business of the office, in an unsettled condition; and he desires to return home & settle it. In addition to this, it appears that he is in declining health, and may not be fit for service; before he will be exempt from Conscription on account of age. If not incompatible with the public interest, I would recommend that he be discharged— for which I am, Very Respy— your obt Servt

(Signed) Sudgate Shorter. Governor of Alabama.

(Copy) Montgomery May

Montgomery, May 8th 1862

Dr Sir: Dr Forteh, A. J. Moreth, and others, Comdrs, Wilcox Co. Ala

Myself and Governor Shorter are writing their energies and determination to defend completely the Alabama river by mobile and obstructions both below & above mobile. The Governor is devoting the resources of the State both pecuniary and otherwise to the accomplishment of this object. We want a thousand laborers to go immediately to work. Montgomery Dallas & Lowndes Counties are, as we learn, contributing liberally as they have heretofore done. I know we need not urge on you, the immense importance of keeping the enemy out of our rich section. Able men are directing the work & at the head of whom I place Daniel Pratt, and his friend Mechanic. We have several Steamboats chartered, and are at work on what we hope, is a determinate and adequate scale. We will succeed, if energy & means can command success. We feel that we are playing for an immense stake. We know the interest which will cost too. has in this enterprize, and do know the patriotism of her people. We want laborers from your County, and, in fact, from all the river Counties. May I ask you know patriotism in this emergency? We want 150 laborers from your County, to aid in defences below mobile. They are wanted immediately. They are but a trifling percent of the male laborers of your rich County. Monroe & Clarke should also contribute - say 50 hands each. The public-spirited will contribute of their hands. As to the rest, that they be impressed if necessary. Make them do their part. The hands must take Spades - Shovels - axes, and provisions for 20 days; and good and reliable men must go with the negroes, & protect them, - Say one supervisor for every 25 or 30. Cooking vessels also should. Transportation on Steamboats to be made out against the State, and settled here, by the Governor. Provisions, also, to be paid for by the Governor, on the presentation of claim by the owner. Same for Negro hire, if demanded. Gen Forney is urgent in this request, for immediate service. May we urge you to great energy? as delay may involve ruin. The Governor Commissions you and such persons as you may designate to execute this order; and arms you & your appointees, with the power of the State, to impress hands, if necessary. The hands should be sent immediately to some landing on the river, to take the first steamboat. We send a copy of the Dispatch - under which this requisition is made. Officers from Counties above you, have been assigned to duty, on other works. Your hands will be reported to Chief Engineer Capt. Lemier, Mobile.

The Governor has placed this business in my hands - & I am Chairman of the Committee of Safety at this place.

Very respy

(Signed) Geo. W. Stone.

Chairman Committee of Safety.

Executive Department

Montgomery, May 8th 1862

Approved, in all particulars.

(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

102

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, May 10th 1862

Genl P. Gorgas, Ch Ord Genl Mobile

Sir, As the knives and pikes were ordered by the Committee of Safety in Mobile, I suppose they were deposited with you for safe keeping. You will hold them subject to the order of the Committee, or the military authorities at Mobile.

Respectfully &c &c Sect.
(Signed) Jno. Gill Shorter

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, May 10th 1862

Jon S. W. Randolph — Secr of War, Richmond.

Dear Sir,

I this morning, granted to the following named persons exemptions from enrollment and service under the "Conscription act," viz. — John A. Milner — Alexander Hart — R. M. Kelly — Cornelius Kennedy — Edmund Boyle — Benjamin C. Milner — Matt Kennedy — & James Lee —. The Legal question is, I know, one that admits of Controversy, but the nature of the case was too urgent to admit of delay; and I acted in the matter, with the full expectation, that when the case was stated to you — you would concur in the wisdom propriety of my course — and, if needful, ratify what I have done. These men are Superintendants and Overseers of negro laborers now at work to the number of (300) three hundred, on the line of Rail-Road in process of grading, from the City of Montgomery to Decatur — on the Tennessee river.

The work is one of very great value and importance every way, as you, no doubt already comprehend; but its special importance at this juncture, and under existing Circumstances is, that the Iron & Coal-beds, of great value & extent, which lie on the line of the Road, about 90 to 100 miles from this City, are to be reached, and the point at which we expect to develop, at the earliest moment possible, supplies of Coal & Iron for the use of the Country. How much both but especially, iron, are now needed you all understand. And, in this connection I may state to you that the State of Alabama has, recently contracted for an advance to a highly responsible Company of gentlemen, the sum of two hundred & fifty thousand Dollars, for the manufacture of fire-arms, and it is the purpose of this Company to establish their Manufactory, at the point above alluded to, on the line of this Rail-Road. In one year more, I am assured, by the Chief Engineer, that if the hands, now at work on the Road, can be kept at work — he will have the road graded from Montgomery to the said iron mines.

Now to the point. The negroes are showing symptoms of uneasiness & insubordination. A good many have run away already. They have to be watched carefully day & night. In this condition of things, if the men who have been over them for some time, and to whose control they have been accustomed, are removed, they cannot be kept on the work. The two-fold evil results, of stopping the work — and having 300 negro-men now under organization, unemployed, and scattered here & there. The Chief Engineer of the work assures me, that if his overseers now in charge are taken away, he cannot carry on the work. Under this state of the case, I have concluded to give them exemptions, and, to avoid all controversy in the matter, I respectfully request that you will give a like order to the same persons whose names are given above.

Very Respectfully
Your obt Servt
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, May 11th 1862.

Col. Jos. E. Brown,
Dear Sir,

I duly received your esteemed favor of 9th inst. for which accept my thanks. The pressure of business has prevented an earlier reply. The telegraphic dispatches sent by Lieut. Gen. Forney, of which you enclosed copies, were received through the Dispatch-office. I am much gratified to hear of the new energy, with which the defences of Mobile are now being prosecuted. It is idle to indulge in reproaches or vain regrets as to the Past. We have earnest work before us, and we must go at it, and press it onward with all possible vigor. Much may be accomplished, even in the brief respite the Enemy will allow us. The Forts should be well provisioned, and abundantly supplied with Ammunition. The Passes on Dog-River Bar - if effectually closed, will arrest the fleet - if it reaches that point; but the batteries Commanding it should have big-guns - plenty of ammunition - well protected in the magazines; and the men should be covered, securely, from the shells and shot of the Fleet. If this is not done, the men will be driven from the guns - and the guns will be lost. My opinion, however, inclines much to the idea, that, knowing the weakness of our land-force, the Enemy - in addition to their fleet, will attempt a land approach to the City - with a largely superior force to ours. Should Gen. Forney lead a part of his troops to re-inforce Gen. Forney at Pensacola, after all our labors & earnest wishes, has been abandoned, Brig. Gen. Lovell's Command, will certainly join Gen. Forney, in due time. On a land-fight, we shall need more small-arms than we have. Of the 1500 ~~Enfield~~ Rifles promised me by the Sec. of War, and ordered, on the 14th of April - to be sent, forthwith to Pensacola, none, on the 24th April, by dispatch, ordered to Corinth. Last week I telegraphed for only 500, but could not get one. I have sent down all I had here; & Three days ago, sent Gen. Jones 3 Cavalry companies, armed here, with double-barrel shot-guns. I have no arms now - but shot-guns, most of which have to be repaired - more or less - and country rifles - which are being bored & repaired. I have several shops at work, but good workmen are scarce, and the repairs move on distressingly slow. However, however, Ship Gen. Forney all the arms I can get fit for service, now is the time to have plenty Cartridges & other Ammunition got ready, if not prepared. As the shot-guns are of varying Calibre, powder & lead should be distributed to the men, as they can, each, prepare Cartridges to fit. Plenty of Buck-shot should be got ready - I am having them moulded here, for Cavalry and Horse Service. The batteries at Fort Stoddard, and above, should be now pushed forward, with great Energy. You may have to fall back to them; I hope not; but wisdom requires all due preparation. My call for negro-Laborers to work on these defences, has been promptly responded to in some of the Counties; to my astonishment & mortification; and I have been compelled to issue orders to press negroes - Provisions & Materials. Private Self-ups and the backwardness & crop-demand, and the failure of former contributions of laborers - whose work was suspended, by the removal of Gen. Bragg's Command, and also - by the interposition of some wealthy planters, who have, heretofore, done little or nothing. These men are dead weights upon our shoulders. But, I do hope, I would bring them to their sense of duty, every practicable way. They are not Unionists - or disloyal to the Cause; but this is a spirit of Avarice is the key to their disgraceful Conduct. I have sent for Ex. Governor Moore to visit the Counties, & hurry-up the Enlistment of Men.

My dear Colonel, with every new disaster - with every unexpected danger or suggestion, my will grows more resolute & determined

We shall be called to suffer and endure far more, I fear, than we have already passed through; but that we shall, ultimately triumph, I have no doubt. Six millions of people, determined to maintain their right of self-government, can never be subdued. When the Yankees have got all our coast & exporting cities, cut off as they will be, from the interior - they will find their possession, but barren victories; and they will be astonished at the grand moral spectacle of a great people, shut out from the rest of the World, relying upon their own unaided power, & the God of Providence, who favors the right cause; giving conspicuous evidence to mankind that they value independence & free Government beyond all other worldly considerations.

Very Truly Yours
(Signed) Ino Gill Shorter.

P.S. What is the present condition of the Alabama Ram? Has her machinery been Completed? Is she armed and supplied with ammunition? What kind of Guns? I fear her iron casing is not finished. I was telegraphed to-day, for six hands for a relay - iron-smiths; but have been unable to find but one - whom I send down tomorrow (Mr Humphrey) a superior workman; I have dispatched to Selma for others, if to be had.

My health is rapidly improving, and I hope, in a few days, if I can get away, to visit your city again. My heart is with you, & I pray God, that our beautiful Sea-Port City may be saved from the pollution of an unnatural & wicked Enemy.

(Signed) I. G. S.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, May 10th 1862.

To G. G. Lyon, & A. A. Woolf;

You are, hereby authorized to impress, for twenty days, not less than discharged, One hundred able-bodied Negro-men, in Marengo County, to aid in constructing river-defenses at Port-Stoddard and Choctaw Bluff - on the Alabama River, and near the Salt-Springs, on the Tombecbee river, and at such other points on said Rivers, as may be deemed necessary. In the exercise of the power, hereby, given, you are instructed to adopt such Course, as will be as nearly Equitable as may be practicable. The mode of doing this, is left to your sound discretion. It is important - not only that the labor be furnished promptly, but that each man - having the ability - should be made to contribute his due proportion. You will require each person, from whom a negro is obtained, to furnish twenty days' subsistence, also an axe and a Spade - if he has one. A sufficient number of sober & prudent men - should be employed to superintend and manage the hands. Transportation will be furnished, and if required, hire of overseers. Negroes, & subsistence will be paid for by the State. You will make requisition upon any steamer, on either of the Rivers, for transportation, & have it charged to the State - & any change is made. The necessity for making this - and other similar orders to impress Laborers, is much regretted, and was not anticipated. We most confidently expected that General Forney's requisition for hands - to aid in the construction of defenses for the Rivers, would have voluntarily & promptly responded to, by those Counties through which these Rivers run; and that it would not be necessary to exercise the stern arm of the Law, to compel men to do their unpaid patriotism enjoined - and Self-preservation so imperatively demanded.

Very Respy,
Your Obt Servt
(Signed) Ino Gill Shorter.

Executive Department.
Montgomery, Alabama, May 10th 1862

Hon. G. W. Randolph, Secretary of War, Richmond Virginia.

Sir,

Col. J. W. Hunter, in Command of 2d Cavalry Regiment Alabama Volunteers - and the bearer of this letter, visits Richmond, in the hope of obtaining orders for active service at an early day. I have the honor to refer you to my Communication of 7th inst. and trust you will not find it inconsistent with the public interest, to order this Regiment into the special service, which, I, there, took the liberty of pressing upon your department.

The Rolls of the Companies are not yet ready for transmission to the office of Adjutant & Inspector General, in Consequence of one having been retained at Tuscaloosa up to this time; a measure, which the proximity of the Lincoln forces - and the number of prisoners, at that point, rendered necessary. Orders, however, have been given to the Company to join the Regiment at this place, and on its arrival, the Muster-Roll will be forwarded.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,
Your obt Serv't
(Signed) J. Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, May 10th 1862.

Brigadier Gen'l Thomas J. Rutter, Head-Quarters, Mobile, Ala.

Sir,

I avail myself of the earliest opportunity to reply to your letter of the 4th inst. (delayed several days, by the failure of the mails) tendering your resignation of the office of Brigadier-General of Alabama Militia. Your letter took me, completely, by surprise. The order of Brigadier Gen'l Forney, dismissing from service the Volunteer Militia Regiments - and dispensing with the valuable aid of yourself and Staff - I had not seen or heard of until the receipt of your letter. The order itself I read for the first time - to-day, in a Selma paper. I am a subscriber to both the City papers in Mobile, but they are very irregular in their arrival, and if either number received by me, contained the order, it escaped my attention. I candidly state to you, that I am not less grieved than surprised at the publication of this order; and while I feel, as the Chief Executive of the State, that your resignation ought not to have been demanded by any such proceeding - in consideration of past services, and prospective advantage to the State, as your personal friend, I cannot say that you are not fully justified in the course that you have thought proper to pursue. And yet, in view of the unfortunate condition of affairs, will you not allow me to refer back the question of your resignation to yourself, for reconsideration? I know your ardent patriotism - and undying devotion to our righteous Cause, and, if Consistent with that self-protection & vindication dear to every high-toned gentleman, you can, upon a review of the Case, Continue to hold the position, I earnestly beg you to do so. In the meantime, I will withhold my acceptance of your resignation, and await your answer, assured that you will act in the premises, as it becomes your duty to yourself & your Country.

With high personal regard, I am, Dear General,
Your friend & obt Servant.

(Signed) J. Gill Shorter. C

106

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, May 13th 1862.

Hon Thos. A. Walker,
Sir.

I have been advised by Telegraphic Dispatch - from W. B. Miller, master of the Steamer, R. J. Lockwood, from Memphis, under date of 29th ult. that twenty two hundred sacks of Salt, belonging to this State, were on board his Boat, at that place. Telegraphic Gen[l] Pillow, asking that the Salt might be shipped over the Memphis & Charleston Rail-Road, and he agreed that it should be done, as soon as the necessities of the public Service would permit its transportation. I have not, yet, been advised of its shipment, and presume it is still, in Memphis. I desire, therefore, that you should go to Memphis, with as little delay as possible, and look after this Salt, and, if you can do so, procure Transportation for it to this State. If you find that this cannot be done - you will store it as Securely as possible, to await Shipment by the first opportunity

Very Respectfully, Yours,
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, May 13th, 1862.

His Excellency, Gov. Brown, Milledgeville, Geo.
Dear Sir;

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th Inst, in reply to mine, in relation to the defences of the Chattahoochie River. The Engineers subject to my order, are now employed in defending the Rivers supplying into Mobile Bay, and I cannot, therefore detail an officer for this Service. I have entire confidence in Col. Boggs, however, and I am willing to confide to him, the work of providing such works of defence, on the Chattahoochie, as, in his judgement, may be needed. I have appointed Dr W. H. Thornton & John McNab of Eufaula, who will co-operate with Col. Boggs, and who will have authority to represent this State in carrying out the plans which he may suggest. I concur in the opinion expressed in your letter, that the Channel of the River may be so obstructed as, effectually, to prevent the Gun Boats of the Enemy from ascending it. These obstructions should be made at several points in the River, how many - and what points should be selected - and the particular mode of obstructing the Channel, are matters which the Chief Engineer will determine; and whatever the plan of operations may be, I will co-operate in carrying it out; and, for that purpose, will invest the Gentlemen - before named - with full authority to represent this State. These gentlemen will be prepared to accompany Col. Boggs, whenever he may notify them of his readiness to undertake the work.

I am,

With great respect.

Your obedient Servant.

(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Proclamation.

By the Governor of Alabama.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, May 12th 1862.

The policy of Conscription, which has been adopted by the Confederate Government, will so materially weaken the Militia System, as to impair its efficiency. For the purpose, therefore, of providing a reserve corps for the defense of our Borders, I propose to organize a State-guard, to be composed of the entire white male Population capable of bearing arms, not subject to Conscription, who will, for that purpose, unite in the formation of Volunteer Companies, and tender their services to me. We have reached the point in the struggle for independence, when every man who can fight must become a soldier. It will not be possible - nor is it desirable - that every man should leave his home, and take his place upon the contested field; but it is important that the entire fighting Capacity of the Country should be organized - and rendered available for defense in every neighbourhood of the State. Such an organization is necessary not only to quiet any Domestic troubles which may arise, but defend our hearth stones against desecration by an invading foe. I do, hereby, enjoin upon all the people in the State, in every Community, who are capable of bearing arms, to enter at once upon the work of organizing Volunteer Companies, in accordance with the provisions hereinafter set forth.

Organization.

1. Each company must consist of not less than forty privates four Corporals - four Sergeants - two Lieutenants - and a Captain. When the number of privates in a Company exceeds sixty, it shall be entitled to an additional Lieutenant. The Captain & Lieutenants will be elected by the Company; and the non-Commissioned officers will be appointed by the Captain.

2. As soon as the requisite number of men shall have been enrolled, and the Company officers elected, the Captains will make out their muster-rolls, showing the names - ages - and ranks of every member of the Companies, accompanied by the Certificate of the Commanding officer, to the Correctness of the Roll. These Muster-Rolls will be, at once, forwarded to Genl H. P. Watson Adjutant Genl of Alabama Militia; when the Company will be, at once, accepted into the service of the State

3. The Companies thus formed will be subject to the order of the Governor, but will not be called into actual Service, except in cases of urgent necessity, & then they will be employed, only for purposes of local & State-defense.

4. Each Company will be expected to provide its own arms, but the State will aid in furnishing Ammunition. Captains of Companies will be authorized to purchase all the Powder & lead, which can be procured in their respective neighbourhoods, and, upon properly certified vouchers, the State will pay for the same, which will be retained for Company-use, to be accounted for by Company Commanders. It is earnestly hoped, that every man in the State, who has within his possession - either arms or ammunitions which he is not able to use in the Public Service, will place them at the disposal of their neighbours, who attach themselves to this organization.

5. It is not intended that this organization shall interfere with the business-pursuits of the people, as the Companies will be called into service - only - in Cases of actual necessity; but, for the purpose of acquiring some proficiency in the Drill, I request, that, in all our cities and large Towns, the business-Houses may be closed at 3 o'Clock P.M., that the balance of the day may be

devoted to drilling; and that companies organized in the Country will drill as often as practicable, not to interfere too seriously with their industrial pursuits. Even should this arrangement occasion some inconvenience, the public safety requires it, and no good Citizen will hesitate to adopt it.

6. all Companies reported under this Proclamation, will be enrolled as part of the State Guard. When called into service, they will be paid and subsisted by the State, as other troops. Should it be thought necessary, the companies will be united into ~~Companies~~ Battalions and Regiments, and, in that event, the Field-Officers will be appointed by the Governor.

In testimony whereof, I, John Gill Shorter, Governor of the State of Alabama, have, hereunto, set my hand and caused the great Seal of the State to be affixed, this the 12th day of may, A. D. 1862 and of the Independence of the Confederate States the second year.

By the Governor,
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

(Signed) D. H. Britton.
Secretary of State

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, May 14th, 1862.

Col. J. Gorgas, Chief of Ordnance, C. S. A. Richmond, Va.

Sir,

I have the Honor to enclose a Communication from J. H. Shepherd, Esq. to you, which I take the liberty of commending to your especial Consideration, and joining in his request that it may be submitted, through you to the President and Secretary of War.

Respectfully, yr. obt. Servt.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, May 14th 1862.

Brig. Gen. Thomas J. Butler, Head-quarters, Mobile, Ala.

Sir,

I have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your gratifying letter of 12th inst, withdrawing your resignation of the position of Brig. Gen. of the ninth Brigade of Alabama Militia: for which, accept my thanks. I think it due to you, to return the letter making the tender, which - I herewith enclose. The Amendment by Gen. Forney was no more than I anticipated from that gallant officer. With the best of wishes for yourself, your glorious cause,

I am, dear Sir, Very truly, yours.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, May 15th 1862

Brigadier Gen. Thos. J. Butler, A. M. Head-quarters, mobile.

Sir, I am, to-day, in receipt of your letter of the 13th, containing the correspondence between yourself & Brig. Gen. Forney; & which I have placed on file in this Department. I did due to you that it should be thus returned. I concur in your views, as to the impolicy of the ordinance to the 40 day Troops. I did all in my power to hold them, in which I believed their true position; they should not reproach me for the unexpected passage of the Conscript-Act, nor the orders of Confederate Officers in reference to it. Human Nature, however, always hunts-up some-body to blame, upon which, to pile up its own misfortunes, dis-appointments. I trust you will kindly intercede in my behalf, and hope those patriotic men, may appreciate what we done in their premises. Very truly yours.

(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, May 10th 1862.

Prof. J. Darby,
Dear Sir;

I have the pleasure of acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 13th inst., communicating a Report of your recent visit to the salt-region of Clarke Co. For your prompt and kind response to my invitation, & for the information contained in your report please accept my thanks, with the hope that they may result in much good to the people of our State. I note, with approval, your suggestions, as to a more thorough exploration of that region, and for that service, I know of no citizen of Alabama, more competent than yourself. I am aware that your private engagements demand your personal attention, and, ordinarily, I should not ask you to forego those interests for the public good. But I submit, whether, at a time like this, we all, do not owe it to our Common Country, to subordinate every other consideration to its service. The work in which I invite your co-operation, is one of prime importance, involving not merely the comfort and convenience but the safety of our people. In view of these facts, I hope you will, if possible, consent to serve the State, by undertaking a thorough exploration of its salt resources, especially in that region, where Springs have already been discovered; and, by a general supervision of the Enterprizes which are on foot, for the manufacture of salt in this State.

Hoping that I may hear from you, at an Early day,
I am, Very respectfully, Yours,
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, May 15th 1862.

Messrs. High & Rives,
Gentlemen,

As an exceptional case, I consent that you may sell to maj W. T. Ware, for Soldiers' families, 50 or 70 bushels of salt on your own account — not making any entry of the same in your account with the State, and from salt not packed for shipment to me under the agreement with Dr Rives, to take all the surplus Salt.

Very Resp'y, Yr obd't Serv't.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.
Executive Department,

To Messrs Dennis, English, & Thomas, Montgomery, Ala. May 14th 1862
Gentlemen,

When in Montgomery, Mr English, one of your firm, submitted a proposition, upon which you were willing to transfer to the State, a part of your lease of the Salt-works you are now working in Clark Co. That proposition was, in substance, the following; Reserving to yourselves a sufficient amount of water, to make fifty bushels of salt per day; and excepting a well which you had leased to a Mr Gray from Lowndes County, you agree to transfer to the State all the balance of your lease for the sum of fifteen hundred Dollars.

I have determined to accept your proposition, and write now, for the purpose of doing so. The fifteen hundred Dollars will be paid so soon as you make a written transfer to the State in accordance with the terms of your proposition; and I would suggest that one of your firm should come up, at once, for that purpose.

Yours, respectfully,

(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

110

108

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, May 14th 1862.

Hon. C. G. Memminger, Secretary of the Treasury, Richmond.

Sir;

By the act of Congress "to authorise the issue of Treasury-notes, and to provide a loan-tax for their redemption" approved, Aug.t 19th 1861— it was provided that a Discount of 10 per.t should be allowed to such States as should pay the amount of their assessment, by the 1st of April 1862. The State of Alabama, by her Gen.l Assembly, assumed the tax, and I was authorized to pay it; but the assessment not having been made, by the 1st of April, or even up to this date. The State had it not in its power to comply with the act of Congress—for want of the ascertained amount of assessment, and not for the want of the means to pay. Seeing towards the last of April, that the assessment would be made in no brief or definite period; and well knowing the earnest desire of the People of the State to respond promptly to every obligation due by them to the Confederate Government; I have advanced the sum of $2.000.000, as the proximat amount of what it is believed the assessment will be. This was done, with your approbation, which was eminently proper, in the matter.

The enclosed letter, from Mr J. Dawford, Sub Treasurer, now in this City, addressed to you, acknowledges the full payment of the $2000.000 as agreed upon by us.

I also, enclose a receipt & certificate, which he declined to sign, in his official character, — not doubting the facts, but preferring that they should be certified by you, of which I do not, at all complain; he having executed receipts in due form, to the Treasurer of the State. I think, however that he will agree with me that the form of the certificate is one which secures to the State a benefit to which she is justly entitled; and I hope it will be your pleasure to furnish it to me over your own official signature, by which I may reserve for the State— the benefits to which she may be entitled, in adjustment of her accounts, hereafter, with the Confederate Government.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, Yr Obt Servt.

(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department Ala
Montgomery May 17 1862

Col W. M. Lowe
Aid-de-Camp

Sir;

The present offers an opportunity for Gen. Wilcox from active duties and my Staff and you to be discharged until further orders— You will have me keep me advised of your locality So that in any grave emergency I can Command your Services

I am Sir Fidelity & energy with which you have performed to my orders, accept my thanks.

(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter

Papers by following letter to the messenger of May 12th 1862. page 110.
C. S. Debentures

Montgomery, Alabama, May 12th, '62.

Hon. L. P. Memminger; Sir,

I have, this day, received from His Excellency, Jno. Gill Shorter, Governor of Alabama $2.000.000, in Treasury notes-on account of the Confederate States' War-Tax for the State of Alabama - as follows; Seven hundred & ninety three Thousand Dols; from the Central Bank; & $1.207.000 from the State-Treasurer.

(Signed) J. Sanford, Depositary.

Cent'r Bank, 793.000
State Treasury, 1.207.000
2.000.000.

Office of the assistant Treasurer of C. S. A.

Montgomery, Alabama, May 12th 1862.

It is, hereby, certified, that Jno Gill Shorter, Governor of the State of Ala has caused to be paid, into this office, the sum of $2.000.000 of Dols in Confederate Treasury notes, & six p. ct. bonds of the Confederate States - convertible on call; the said sum being paid on account of the War-Tax, due by the State of Alabama, under the provisions of an act of the Provisional Congress, "to authorise the issue of Treasury-notes, and to provide a War-Tax for their redemption" approved August 19th 1861; said amount being assumed as an approximation to the amount due, & to be hereafter, according to the assessment to be made, in said State, by the Confederate Authorities, said assessment not having been completed.

Executive Department,

Montgomery, Alabama, May 13th 1862.

D. H. Shepard, Esq, Mount-Vernon;

My Dear Sir;

I received yours of the 11th only last night, & have forwarded your communication to Col. Gorgas, recommending it to his especial consideration, with the request to submit the same to the Secretary of War, and the President. To speak plainly - however, I have not the slightest idea that your views will be adopted. I say this, for the reason, that the Administration has distinctly disclosed it as their policy, to give up our Coast, excepting such points as may be deemed essential, to keep up the supplies of - and communication with the armies in Virginia & at Corinth. The fate of Orleans has, probably strengthened its view of the soundness of that policy, by demonstrating the impossibility of mere Fort-Defenses - of the old Character - successfully contesting the passage of Steam-marines. To do this there must be obstructions - holding the Gun-boats long enough within range to cripple or destroy them. The Administration, evidently considers success at Corinth & in Virginia as the great end to be accomplished, and, to secure this result, have made-up their minds to give-up less important positions. I shall make no issue with them, as to the correctness of these views, and if the giving-over of the fairest portion of Alabama were necessary to secure us a triumph at Corinth or in Virginia, I should do it - whatever my regrets might be - without a single murmur. But, as things stand at present, I regard Mobile as essential to our success at Corinth. I am satisfied, that Mobile gone — the interior of Alabama penetrated - the only available means of supplying the Army of Beauregard with Troops - munitions of War - and Subsistence - are, also, gone; that this Army must either melt - away in a few weeks, or be forced to incur the disadvantages of following the enemy to their gun-Boats, which will, if necessary, effectually, cover their retreat, should they be defeated, & deprive us of the fruits of the battle. Entertaining these views, I have been pressing on the Department the necessity of sustaining Mobile, and of protecting the Interior

by defenses which command the two rivers. Before Genl Bragg left meas-
ures had been commenced, which, it was hoped, would give us this
security. The great difficulty then was the want of Guns for the
batteries. When Genl Bragg was ordered to Corinth, the same meas-
ures earnestly pressed on Genl Jones, but the same difficulty, as to guns,
existed. Since then the attention of Genl Forney has been directed to the
same object, and since the fall of Orleans, our people, who were, before,
supine and lethargic, have become aroused to the necessity of these
defenses, and I have great hope that, by means of obstructions
and batteries, now in process of construction, at Choctaw Bluff - the
point that has been selected, by Competent Engineers, as the most suitable
with reference to the stage of the River - may prove effectual.

As for furnishing five Thousand men, I regret to say that it is,
simply, an impossibility. Had I the most Despotic Powers given to
man, it could not be accomplished, in the present condition of
things, within the time they would be required. A portion of North-
Alabama is over-run; Pensacola is evacuated, and the Enemy in
force there, threatening the junction of the two Roads at Pollard.
Near sixty thousand men, already in the Confederate Service, not one of whom
is subject to my order - or who can be controlled by me; and in many
many Settlements, in South Alabama, Scarcely one man to one hundred
Slaves. Even if we had the men, how are they to be armed? or provided
Ammunition or subsisted? The State has not in its possession, Serv-
icable guns enough to arm three Companies. It has armed upwards
of Eighteen Thousand Troops in the Service of the Confederacy, in
addition to turning over Twenty-one Thousand five Hundred Stand
of Arms taken at Mount Vernon; and I have had Local Agents in
almost every County in the State purchasing guns; I have, indeed,
left nothing undone to secure them.

As I have already said - batteries are erecting at Choctaw Bluff;
and the river, being obstructed at that point - Genl Forney is work-
ing, most Energetically, and I am affording him every assistance
which the resources of the State can supply; I have every con-
fidence that he will do all that can be done, and I am hopeful
as to the result.

I have written to you more at length than I anticipated, and
communicated, to you, the Poverty of the State, in order that you
might, properly, appreciate its difficulties. Of course, it is unne-
cessary to say to you that they should not mentioned to others.
Perhaps I have done wrong in communicating them to any one.
I should be pleased, at all times, to hear from you, and have
the aid of your suggestions.

Very Respectfully, your obt. Sert.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, May 19th 1862.

Wm M. Gray, Esq. Engineer of Montgomery & Eufaula Rail-Road.

Sir, - The hands - under your Control, on the Montgomery & Eufaula R. R.
are required - as a military necessity, to protect the communication between Mobile
& Montgomery & Mobile, by taking up the R. R. iron, between Pensacola & Pollard. Of course
a fair Compensation for their services will be allowed, and you are requested
to turn them over to Mr J. R. Abrams, who is the active Superintendent, in reim-
proving the R. R. now referred to. If you have no authority to turn them over to
Mr Abrams, and decline to do so, then he is invested with full power &
authority to impress the Hands, for the Military purposes, above set-
forth. Very Respectfully, Your obt Sert.

(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

The State of Alabama, made by authority
of the Name.
Jno. Gill Shorter, Governor of said State,
To Francis A. Bates, Greeting;

Having Confidence in your Skill and ability as a Surgeon and Physician, and in your practical judgement to direct and manage a Hospital for sick and wounded Soldiers, Know ye, I hereby appointed Surgeon & Physician of the Alabama Hospital for sick and wounded Soldiers of this State, attached to the army, Stationed at Corinth Mississippi, with full Powers to direct manage and control the same, subject, however, to the Army Regulations of the Confederate States of America. You are authorised to disburse the funds, that may be placed in your hands, in such manner as, in your judgement, will most contribute to effect the objects of your appointment, observing a proper economy.

In Testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the great Seal of the State to be affixed, at Montgomery, This 19th day of May, A.D. 1862.

(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

By the Governor.

(Signed) P. A. Brittan, Secy of State.

Proclamation.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, May 19th, 1862,

The next Scholastic year of the University of Alabama begins on the 1st of Septr next. + The election of members to the Corps, takes place at the Annual meeting of the Trustees, on Saturday, the 12th of July next, by which time all applications for admission must be addressed to the President of the University. + Those elected will receive their Commissions from the Executive under the great Seal of the State. + The number of the Corps will be limited to two hundred. + No applications for enlistments for a period less than one Year, will receive consideration, & if the number of applications exceeds two hundred, a preference will be given to those Candidates, who propose to enlist for periods longer than one year. + applications must, ~~be made~~ in all cases, be accompanied with Certificates of good moral character, and must set forth the age & scholastic attainments of the applicant, as well as the course of study he wishes to pursue. + Cadets of the University — whatever their ages may be — will be exempt from conscription in the army of the Confederate States, during the term of their enlistment as State Cadets. + For full information, letters may be addressed to Dr. L. C. Garland, President of the University, at Tuscaloosa.

In testimony whereof, I John Gill Shorter, Governor of the State of Alabama, have hereunto set my hand, and caused the great Seal of the State to be affixed, this the 17th Day of May A.D. 1862. and of the Independence of the the second Year.

By the Governor
(Signed). P. A. Brittan, Secy of State.

(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, May 20th 1862.

Hon. Jno. H. Bonner, Mobile,

Sir; Dr Milne is here. Have learned his views. He is not exactly qualified to control the Engineers, but his services are valuable, in keeping the Negroes at work, & supplying their wants—getting up supplies &c. He has great energy—his services valuable. He places a high estimate on Mr Millington's services. Judge Clowe will write. Judge Walker.

Very Respectfully, Your obt Servt.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, May 20th 1862.

Col. Joseph H. Bradford, of Coosa County, Ala.

Sir; I beg to advise you, that I have appointed you Agent and Commissioner—for the State of Alabama, to visit the Salt-works in Virginia, and to contract for as much Salt as can be purchased for the State of Alabama, not to exceed three hundred thousand bushels (300.000 bushels), payable, in Confederate Currency, at $1 per bushel, and on condition that transportation can be furnished. You are furnished herewith—with $30.000, to be used for this purpose; and, in the execution of this Commission, you will use your best discretion, to supply the State with a commodity so essential to the wants of our people; and as, of course, you cannot adjust transportation for an indefinite period in the future, I would suggest that you so arrange, if possible, as to secure the early shipment of quantities, as payment, and delivery are made; or for the payment for such quantities as fast as transportation can be furnished.

Very resp'y, Yr obt Servt.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter,
Gov^r of Alabama.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, May 20th 1862.

Col. Joseph H. Bradford,
Dear Sir;

While in the Execution of your Commission as Agent for the State to the Salt-Works in Virginia, I beg to call your attention to the fact that we have valuable Salt-Springs in Alabama, which are now being developed; we are, however, greatly in need of an efficient—practical man, who understands the Method of obtaining the fountains, and the best means to employ and make available their greatest Capacity—or yield for Salt. The services of such a man would be, at this juncture, almost invaluable, and I authorize you to employ such an one, and furnish him with transportation, with directions to report to the Executive office.

Very respfly, Yr obt Servt.
(Signed) Jno. Gill Shorter.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, May 21st 1852.

Dr M. G. Moore, Alabama Penitentiary;

Sir,

The untimely death of Dr A. Burrows, the lessee of the Penitentiary, and the failure of all bids for a continuance of the lease, have imposed new responsibilities upon the Executive. Upon the death of the Lessee, it became the duty of the Inspectors, forthwith, to employ a Warden, and other officers & guards for the Prison, until a lease could be made, and, on failure to lease, until the Governor should appoint a Warden, as directed in Section 3887 of the Code of Alabama; whose compensation and duties - as well as those of the other officers of the Prison - are to be governed by the Laws in force, before the 4th of February, 1846. + The appointment of yourself, as Warden, by the Inspectors - met the approbation of the Executive; and - as from your experience - derived from a former Connection with the Prison - in the same Capacity, and your known character for energy & integrity; I am content to entrust this Institution to your management, I hereby notify you, that you are appointed, by the Executive, to continue in the office of Warden of the Penitentiary - until superseded by Law.

The death of the Lessee has, necessarily complicated the accounts, outstanding and unadjusted, between the Lessee and the State. It is important, therefore, that all papers - books of account - and memoranda, which will tend to shed light upon the matter, and assist in the Statement of accounts between the Lessee & the State, should be gathered & preserved, with a view to a fair & just settlement.

The failure to lease the Prison makes it necessary for the State to provide - for its Continued operations, until the assembling of the Legislature; and as the policy of our penal Code is the humane one of reformation, and - to this end - the employment of the Convicts in manual labor, provision must be made - not only for their safe custody - food - and raiment, but machinery - tools - and material must be had - in order to keep them engaged, as contemplated & commanded by the Law. As it is essential for the accomplishment of this purpose, (and specially dismantled as a military necessity at this juncture) Now you are, hereby, directed to retain in the Prison - and appropriate, for the use of the State, the machinery - tools & materials enumerated in the memorandum herewith enclosed. All the remainder of the property or effects belonging to the late Lessee or others, now will surrender - and deliver - on demand, to his legal representative, or the parties who may be entitled to receipt for the same. + It is hoped and believed, that a judicious use of the property which you are directed to retain, together with the favorable Contract for the manufacture of Articles for the Confederate Government, will enable you to sustain the Prison - without any Draft upon the State Treasury, and also realize sufficient profits, to enable you to discharge all liabilities incurred by the State, in the appropriation of the property, and before the assembling of the Legislature. For the accomplishment of this purpose, I doubt not, you will labor with all commendable zeal

Your obedient Servant,
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter. Gov^r of Alabama.

P. S. I have recd a proposition from Thos. Williams Esq, Administrator of A. Burrows, deceased, in relation to a Sale of the property, & effects of the late Lessee, & I, herewith, enclose you a copy of the same, together with a copy of my letter to you; so that you may be fully advised - as well as yourself - of my official acts in the Premises.

J. G. S.

110

117

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, May 21st 1862.

Dr. M. G. Moore, Alabama Penitentiary.

Sir

In view of the importance of the matter, and for fear of an omission which may embarass the operations of the Prison, I hereby authorize you to retain - and appropriate, for the use of the State, in addition to the Machinery - Tools + Materials mentioned in the Memorandum - this day - furnished you; any other articles, of like kind, which, upon examination, + inventory, you discover necessary to the Ends contemplated in my Letter of this date, and which will not, materially, increase the liability of the State

Your obt Servt.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.
Gov^r of Alabama.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, May 21st, 1862.

Thomas Williams, Esq; Administrator of A. Burrows decd.

Sir,

The proposition embraced in your Letter of 19th inst. for a sale of "the Effects, in + connected with the Penitentiary of the State of Alabama, belonging to the Estate of A. Burrows," has been duly considered, and, in reply, I have to say that I would not feel justified in accepting it: + the untimely death of Dr Burrows was a misfortune to the State - as well as to himself + family; and I am sure that the State-authorities will be disposed to adjust all accounts, with his Representative, upon a liberal basis of equity + justice

Your proposition - however, asks the State to take and pay - for articles in the Prison, which, at present, are unremunerative, and which were unavailable - for revenue - to Dr Burrows, in his lifetime, + would so have continued, for an indefinite period, had he lived. The accident of his death should not entail the further misfortune of an unprofitable investment upon the State.

The death of the Lessee - and the failure to re-let the Prison makes it necessary to continue its operations, on account of + under the immediate direction of the State authorities; and, in view of the responsibility thus cast upon the Executive, and the humane policy adopted by our Penal Code, I have, this day, appointed D. M. G. Moore, Warden of the Penitentiary, as directed by section 3887 of the Code of Alabama; and, as the Governor of the State of Alabama, have directed him to retain certain machinery - tools - + materials deemed useful (as a Military necessity, imperiously demanded by the present condition of the country) for the Continued Employment of the Convicts, and to appropriate them for the use of the State, in the accomplishment of that purpose. all the remainder of the Property or Effects - belonging to the late Lessee or others, the Warden is directed to surrender, + deliver on demand, to his legal representative - or the parties who may be entitled to receipt for the same. + I hand you, herewith, a copy of the letter, addressed to the Warden, with a copy of the memorandum of property + Effects, which he is directed to appropriate for the use of the State. The State will be bound to make just compensation for them; and, to this End, in order to fix their value at the present time, or at the time of the death of the Lessee - I suggest that appraisers be appointed forthwith for that purpose. It will be the duty of the Probate Court of Coosa County, to appoint appraisers for the Estate of Dr Burrows, + if impartial + competent men are to be appointed, the State would, hardly, be disposed to question their valuations. It would, however, be right + proper, in view of the future settlement - to have Consent + Agreement, - if possible - between yourself + the State-authorities, as the delec-

tion of the appraisers to be appointed by the Probate Court. If this suggestion be approved by you - I authorize the Governor - Dr Moore, to act for the State in the selection of appraisers

Your obt Servt.
(Signed) John Gill Shorter
Governor of Alabama.

P.S. I have enclosed Dr Moore a copy of your letter to me, of 19th inst. and of my reply.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, May 21st 1862

James J. McLemore Esq. La Fayette Alabama, &c.

Dear Sir,

I avail myself of the earliest opportunity to reply to your letter of the 19th inst. If five Companies are raised in your County, - organized & tendered under my proclamation of the 12th inst, I will accept them severally; and if their organization into a battalion will promote any useful results, I will order accordingly. My present opinion, however, is that Company-organizations will be more efficiently and readily handled - for the accomplishment of the objects contemplated by me.

Very Resp'y, Your obt Servt.
(Signed) John Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, May 20th 1862.

Messrs Hugh M. Caffey - Charles H. Moulton - Wm H. Osbourne - W. Thomas - Jno. Alford - J. M. Dillehay - J. A. Boreman - J. H. Wade - M. P. Dawson - B. J. Baldwin, C. Robinson - M. L. May - R. P. McCord.

Gentlemen, I hereby, Commission you - or any one or more of you - your agents, or appointees - to solicit and procure Laborers to work on defenses of the Alabama River, so as to swell the number of Slaves from Montgomery County, to one hundred & seventy five, being an additional number of seventy adult male Slaves - the laborers to be furnished - by their owners, with provisions for twenty days, and with axes Spades & Shovels. Such Slaves will receive Transportation on any Steam-boat plying the Alabama River, to the Point of destination - at present, Choctaw Bluff.

Should you meet with difficulty in obtaining these Slaves - you, or any one or more of you are empowered - and instructed to impress such male Slaves - provisions - implements &c. into the public Service, and to forward them, immediately, to the theatre of operations, by the Steam-Boat aforesaid. In resorting to the power of pressing - you are requested to equalize the burden on the public - so far as you can; and to press the property of those who have not heretofore contributed Slave-laborers, in adequate numbers, to the public defense. The transportation will be paid by the State, and a reasonable allowance made for provisions and negro-hire, if demanded

Given under my hand,
(Signed) Jno. Gill Shorter.
Governor of Alabama.

Executive Department,
May 20th 1862.

To the voluntary contributors of Labor for River Defences

The Confederate Government - and the authorities of the State of Alabama, have united their means and energies, to defend the navigable waters of this State against the advance of the invader. You have, generously responded to the call - heretofore made upon you. The work is in able - and energetic hands, and is progressing rapidly; but, owing to a deficiency of Laborers, cannot be completed in twenty days. I have called for

interest, and will obtain them; but to render the enterprize certainly and speedily successful, I am under the necessity of retaining the laborers now now employed, until the work is finished. This may extend the Term of Labor fifteen days longer, than was at first supposed. In appealing to you and in announcing the necessity of detaining your property beyond the time first suggested, I feel that I may again trust in your loyalty & patriotism — so often and so signally manifested. Alabamians will submit to any sacrifice — to save their altars from desecration — their hearth-stones from pollution.

I, therefore, as the Executive of the State, adopt this method of announcing to you that your Slaves will be retained, until these public works works are Completed. I hope and expect a speedy accomplishment of the work. Provisions will be supplied to them for this extended term of service — and compensation will be made to the owners, for the additional time they may be employed, on a proper presentation of the Claim

(Signed)

Jno. Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,

Montgomery, Alabama, May 23° 1862.

Brig. Gen.l Jno. H. Forney; Head Quarters, Mobile, Alabama.

Sir,

For the purpose of securing adequate Police provision to suppress any local disturbances, and for Home security & defense, in the different sections of the State, I issued my Proclamation, on the 12th inst., advising the people of the State — over the Conscript age, to form Volunteer Companies, to be enrolled, and accepted by me as a "State Guard". Company organizations are deemed best in view of the objects contemplated; but Battalion & Regimental organizations will be formed — if the Public Welfare should require them. The Proclamation is not Compulsory — but advisory — merely the People may adopt any other legitimate form of organization, which particular localities may prefer, for their own better security. And lest you & the citizens of Mobile and its Vicinity may be Embarrassed by the Terms of my proclamation, I beg, officially to advise you, that it was not my purpose to interfere with any plan or mode of organization, by the citizens of Mobile and adjoining Counties, by which they preferred to prepare for the Enemy an attack upon our Coast, or any Conditions or Terms, upon which you might be willing to accept their services, in aid of your responsible duties — as Confederate Military Commander at Mobile.

With high regards, I am,

Respt'y Yours.

(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,

Montgomery, Ala. May 24th 1862.

Hon. I. Warford,

Dear Sir;

I have the pleasure to acknowledge receipt of your favor of 19th, and am pleased at your approval of my Proclamation of the 12th inst. The objects I have contemplated, are, first, to preserve order at Home, and, secondly, to fight the Public Enemy, if he appears within our borders. Timely organization, and preparation must be had; and, as the State may be forced to use all its available men, in local defence, we must get ready to act when the Emergency Comes. The Spirit of our people — thank God — is invincible by the Yankees, and I, to-day, feel as strong Confidence in our ultimate Triumph, as on the Glorious day, when Alabama seceded from the old Union.

Companies raised, under my proclamation, must be tendered ... [illegible] ... the first Regiment — they are raised in

Barbour, I will organize them into a battalion - and if two Battalions into a Regiment. No Commissions will be issued for field officers, until the organizations of the Battalions - or Regiments. I shall be happy to advance your patriotic views, by any means in my power.

Permit me to hand you the enclosed Pamphlet, upon the production of Nitre. You may do great good, by copious extracts in your Paper, in inducing your People to engage in its production.

Gen[l] Lee's application is filed

Truly Yours,
(Signed) Geo Gill Shorter

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, May 25th 1862

Mr Albright,
Coosa County, Alabama,
My dear Sir,

The sad and painful duty is devolved upon me, to communicate to you, the sudden - and untimely death of your Beloved Son - Mr James S. Albright. What is known of the Circumstances attending this unfortunate occurrence, will be fully stated to you by Mr Hubbell, who attends the body home, to be deposited in the Tomb.

The occasion is a fit one for me to express the obligations I have been under, for the prompt cheerful and faithful discharge of every duty imposed upon your son, in the Executive office. His services to me, amid the arduous and responsible labors & burdens, imposed by the present condition of the Country, have been invaluable; and, on that account, his loss is a Public Calamity.

I know this sad bereavement will fall heavily, upon the hearts of his aged parents - kindred & friends; but I trust that they may be sustained & comforted by that God of Providence "whose tender mercies & loving kindness are over all the works of his hands"!

With the assurance of my Earnest sympathies, & best wishes,
I am, very respectfully,
Truly, Yours.
(Signed) Geo Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, May 24th 1862.

Hon. J. W. Randolph, Secretary of War, Richmond, Va
Sir,

Your letter of the 10th inst. has been received. In reply I have to inform you, that the name of Mrs Caroline E. Hall's eldest son, is Anderson K. Hall, and that he belongs to Company G. (Lomax Sharp-Shooters) 3d Regiment, Alabama Volunteers. As to the Transfer of L. Skinner, Geo. P. Rayburn - J. L. Conklin - and Jos. M. Amos, I have to state, that when I wrote you, these Gentlemen belonged to - and had served, for nearly one year, as members of an independent &c. & Florida Company - known as the "Simpson mounted Rangers." That said Company did not belong to, or compose a part of any Regiment. The "Governor Shorter Dragoons," to which they decline to be transferred, was one of the Cavalry Companies, organized, & accepted for the Cavalry Regiment authorized to be raised, under the last requisition, from your Department, upon the State of Alabama, for twelve Regiments. Since then, this Regiment has been organized, and is known, and designated as the "2d Alabama Cavalry Regiment," & said "Gov. Shorter Dragoons" is now one of the Companies composing that Regiment. I concur with you as to the importance & propriety of transmitting all such applications, thro' the proper commanding officers, and, when an opportunity offers, will call the attention of the parties to it, in the strongest manner.

Very Resp[y], Your ob[t] Serv[t].
(Signed) Geo Gill Shorter.

120

(Copy.)

Montgomery, Alabama, May 26th 1862.

His Excellency, John Gill Shorter;

Permit me to present, through you, to the State of Alabama, a large Confederate States' Flag, recently brought over from England, and landed from Steam-ship Nashville.

Already baptized in blood, and victor in many a hard-fought field, may she long float, with unobscured Stars, and proudly lead on to Glory & independence.

With much respect,
(Signed) E. Halfmann.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, May 26th, 1862.

Mr E. Halfmann,
Montgomery.

Dear Sir,

I accept with pleasure, the large & beautiful flag of the Confederate States, which you have presented to the State of Alabama, the fact that it was made on the other side of the Atlantic, and proudly floated upon the breeze, as it was borne over the great waters, and came into a Confederate Port, in defiance of the Guns of the Enemy, renders its possession by the State, still more acceptable. No State has proved more loyal to the cause of our Southern Confederacy, and none has, more cheerfully contributed her resources of men & means, to advance it in the Past— and none will make greater sacrifices, in the future, to secure its ultimate and certain triumph, than Alabama. This glorious flag she will cherish & fight for, until all nations shall know & respect it.

On behalf of the people of Alabama, I thank you for this valuable gift, laid upon the altar of your Country.

Respectfully, your ob't Serv't
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.
Governor of Alabama.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, May 26th, 1862.

~~Gen~~ Gen'l R. E. Lee, General Commanding, C. S. A. Richmond,
General.

I am in receipt of yours of the 20th inst, advising me of the complaints of Maj Calhoun, A. Q. master at this place, as to the difficulty of obtaining forage, for twelve Cavalry Companies raised under my authority, with the suggestion on your part of dismounting and organizing them as Infantry.

Maj C. is not precisely accurate as to the number of Companies. There have been but Eleven here— nine of which with one at Tuscaloosa, constitute the 2d Cavalry Regiment, commanded by Col. J. W. Hunter. The other two unattached, all having been raised under a requisition made upon the State, by Mr Benjamin White, acting as Sec'y War, which authorized the raising of two Cavalry regiments.

The Company at Tuscaloosa has been kept there, up to this time, for the purpose of assisting in guarding some Eleven Hundred prisoners which have been removed only within the last few days. Scouting the intermediate region between that Point and North-alabama, and giving some protection against the marauding band, which infested the Valley of the Tennessee. The sense of security, afforded by the presence of the Company— not to speak of the actual service rendered by it— fully justify the use which has been made of it. It is now about to join the Regiment at this place.

Four Companies of the same Regiment are, by order of Brig'd Gen'l Forney, operating between Pollard & Pensacola, covering the working-parties employed in putting up the Rail Road & scouting

between Pollard & Blackwater, and, generally, protecting the Communication between this point & Mobile, which, if interrupted, cuts us off from Corinth. One of the unattached Companies has been ordered, by Genl Forney to Mobile, for the purpose of using its horses in the Artillery service; and all which have been engaged in actual service, have been temporarily armed by the State, in view of the pressing Exigency of the Case- and in Consideration of the protection given, by these movements, to the State & its Citizens.

In your letter of the 13th inst, you speak of sending the Regiment referred to- to Chattanooga, to operate with the forces at that point, for the protection of the Northern frontier of Georgia & Alabama, as soon as it can be armed and Equipped. Some of the officers are already engaged in the purchase of shot-guns, and there are some hundred & fifty, already, in the Regiment. as to what the State can & will do, in that direction, I beg leave to refer you to my Communication to the Secy of War, under date of the 7th inst, I have but little doubt, that, in a month or six weeks, the Regiment can be fully armed and equipped.

Under these circumstances, I Strongly deprecate the policy of dismounting these Companies, and re-organizing them as Infantry. They were raised as Cavalry, & the two unattached Companies are of the very best material- both officers and men. The alacrity displayed by one of them (Capt: Thompson) in his readiness to put his horses and men, temporarily, into the artillery service- is deserving of notice- the more especially as it was strongly objected to by another Company, first selected for that purpose; which, it is proper that I should say- was not either of the twelve Companies, I have referred to. The two unattached are especially adapted to the Partizan- Service, and desirous of joining a Regiment- now raising, by Col. John T. Morgan, of this State under permission from Genl E. K. Smith. I hope that it may not be inconsistent with the Public Service, that their wishes may be gratified.

As to grazing at this season of the year- We have no grazing lands, at this season of the year- this side of the mountains- at least- none worth speaking of; no clover and but little grass. In the Fall, it might be done.

I have the honor to be,
Very Respectfully,
Your obedient Servant.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.
Governor of Alabama.

P.S. In addition to the two Regiments- sent, by your direction to Chattanooga, I have, at the request of Genl Beauregard, sent two to Corinth, and hope to get three more; five in all— off this week, to the same Point; shall have left twelve or thirteen Regiments, and some odd Companies, exclusive of Williard's Legion, which has twenty three Companies, infantry- Cavalry & Artillery.

J. G. S.

(Duplicate) Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. May 2d 1862.

Messrs John P. High & Co. Lessees of Salt-Springs.

Gentlemen; As it will enable you to prosecute your Salt enterprise with greater facility, to be relieved of constant applications, at the Works, I propose to engage, for the State, all the surplus Salt which you can make. If agreeable to you, I will accept its delivery, on board of Steam-boats on the Tombigbee & Alabama Rivers- allowing you fair Compensation for the sacks or barrels, in which it may be packed and expenses of delivery, if hauled to the Alabama river. Respy Yours, (Signed) Jno Gill Shorter, Govr of Alabama.

We accept the above proposition. May 2d 1862
(Signed) Jno P. High & Co

1st

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, May 26th 1862

Hon. J. D. Johnston, Montgomery,

Dear Sir,

In reply to your note of 23d inst. suggesting the propriety of an advance of $3.000 - or $3.500, for the purpose of building a shelter to protect cotton removed by military order, to the Warehouse known as Gunter's Warehouse. I have to say, that the Cotton will be at the risk of the owners - or parties having charge of it, and that the State will be, in no wise, responsible for any damage which may be occasioned by its removal to such warehouse, in default of the failure of the owners in removing it from the City, as commanded by Brig Genl Forney. While the protection of the Cotton from damage by the weather, is proper & commendable, that duty is not devolved upon the State. I must, therefore, decline to make any advances, for the purposes mentioned by you.

Very resp'y, Yr obt Sert.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, May 26th 1862.

Genl M. J. Bulger, Loachapoka,

Dear Sir,

Am in receipt of yours of 23d inst. In reply, have to say that you are mistaken in supposing the assessment of the Confederate War-tax was post-poned until next Winter. The State of Alabama has advanced the sum which, it is supposed, would cover the amount of the assessment - say Two Millions of dollars - subject to future adjustment when the assessment is made. The assessments are now going-on, in some of the Counties and should be progressing in all parts of the State. I hope the work will be promptly attended to in Tallapoosa County.

You ask my advice as to your holding your commission as County Tax-Collector and continuing in the Army. I will give you a candid answer; and that is - if you expect the County assessment to be fully & faithfully made - you ought to give it your personal attention. It is a matter of great importance, both to the State and to the Confederacy, and should be attended to at once, with Efficiency. If you intend to be responsible for the correctness of the work, you should either resign your Command or get a furlough to see the work accomplished; or resign the appointment of Tax-Collector, & let another fill it.

Very truly, yours.
(Signed) John Gill Shorter.

Executive Department.
Montgomery Alabama; May 26th 1862.

Dr. W. G. Moore, Warden, Alabama Penitentiary. Dear Sir;

Upon a more full understanding of the proposition of Thos Williams, Esq. Admr of Alvin Burroughs, I have concluded to take the articles, machine tools, &c, embraced in the Schedule which I directed you to retain. The articles which were valued by the Experts, at the instance of the assignee of Burroughs, Holt, & Co. will be taken at their valuation. Those of the articles, stock, &c - embraced in said schedule - sent you, but which were not valued by said Experts, you or Mr Williams can have valued by competent persons, selected by you respectively, or agree on the valuation between yourselves, and furnish me with the valuation at your earliest convenience. I am satisfied that this arrangement is best for the State, and while it avoids what might be considered a harsh measure, will make the matter of more simple & easy adjustment.

Very Respectfully, &c.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.
Governor of Alabama

Executive Department.

Montgomery, Alabama, May 28th 1862.

John M. Henson, Esq., Dear Sir; (Butler, Choctaw Co.)

You are authorized and instructed to raise negro laborers, in Choctaw County, to the number of to the number of forty, to work on entrenchments, and fortifications, at & near Mobile. Also to obtain suitable and discreet persons — one or more — to go in Company with — superintend — protect — and return the slaves, when their services are completed. Should the negroes not be voluntarily contributed, you are instructed to press them into the service, equalizing the burdens — in this Event — as far as you can; the overseers negroes to be transported on any Steamboat plying our Rivers, at the expense of the State. The negroes to be furnished, by their owners, with provisions for twenty days - Cooking utensils — and Spades and Shovels as far as attainable; but there forgeth. er with negro-hire and hire of overseers, all to be paid for by the State, if demanded, on a proper presentation of the Claims.

In the distribution of labor — Slaves, from your County have been assigned to service, near Mobile, the defense of which is alike important to every part of South-Alabama.

It is hoped and expected that the good people of Choctaw will respond, cheerfully — and voluntarily to this requisition; as the purpose of the Enterprize is the Defense of their homes and the common interests, from the ravages of a marauding & Merciless foe. Let me urge you to prompt — and energetic measures, in this Service; for the want of laborers at Mobile, is very pressing. I authorise you to appoint, with yourself — one or more just and discreet men, as your associates, with you, in the execution of this order.

For your generous tender of your services, allow me to return my sincere thanks. Nothing gives me greater Satisfaction — or more confidence in our ultimate Triumph, than the alacrity, every where observable, with which good men strive for the privelege of serving their Country.

Very Respectfy,
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, May 30th 1862

Dr. M. G. Moore,
Warden of the Alabama Penitentiary,
Dear Sir,

In addition to my instructions in the two former letters addressed you, with reference to the business of the Penitentiary; you will, in settling with the Administrator of A. Burrowes, dec'd, allow to him interest upon the amount stated to be due from 17th day of March, 1862. As the State has had the benefit of the property from that date, it is but simple justice, that the Estate of Dr A. Burrows should be allowed interest from that date.

Yr obt Sert
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter. Governor of Alabama.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, May 29th 1862.

Genl S. R. Rayburn — Sir

Having been informed, through my aid-de-camp, A. B. Moore, that you have been Elected Captain of one of the Companies in Col. Sheffield's Regiment; and believing that the public service requires you to remain in Command of your Division; deem it my duty to order you, to return to your Command, as Maj. Genl of the Ninth Division of Alabama Militia, to meet any emergency that may arise.

Very Respectfully,
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.
Governor Alabama.

124

Executive Department
Montgomery. Alabama; May 29th 1862.

Lt Gen. Pillow Sir:

Your note to me, in regard to raising a mounted Company armed with shot-guns, has been shown the Governor, and meets his approval.

I am, therefore, instructed by him to say that you are authorized to raise such a Company as you propose, for State service, in the mountain regions of Alabama; you will be allowed the use of the state-arms & ammunition to which you refer. The Company should be composed of sober-discreet- and brave men- over the age of thirty-five. As soon as the Company is organized, it must be reported to the Governor for acceptance, when Commissions will be issued to the officers, and instructions given, in regard to the movements &c of the Company. The officers that may be elected, will be subject to his approval.

Very Respectfully
(Signed) A.B. Moore, Aid-de Camp
Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, May 30th/62

Hon. G.W. Randolph, Secy of War, Richmond;

Sir;

In accordance with my Telegraphic reply, of this date, to your dispatch of yesterday, I now write you, as to the execution of the Conscript law. + In relation to the appointment of an officer to take charge of the ~~enrollments~~ camps and superintend the Enrollments, I refer you to the following copy of a dispatch, which I sent you on the 24th Instant
"Montgomery, Alabama, May 24th 1862. To Hon G.W. Randolph, Secretary of War, Richmond. + I respectfully recommend the transfer of Maj. L. [redacted] Johnston- now Quarter-Master in Genl Bragg's army, to take charge of the enrollments and camps for Conscripts in Alabama, when you think proper to act. He is a citizen of Alabama; has been in service from the beginning of the War; and his transfer would be agreeable to him, and the State. He would be very efficient.
John Gill Shorter
Governor of Alabama"

I now have the pleasure to repeat this recommendation. From a long personal acquaintance with this excellent & patriotic gentleman, and from my full conviction that from his integrity- energy- business-qualifications- and administrative capacity, he will discharge the arduous & delicate duties of the position with fidelity & ability, I feel a freedom, not only to recommend his appointment, but to advise that it would be, personally, most agreeable to me in my official position. Maj. Johnston was assistant Qr-Master to the first Alabama Regiment, which served twelve months at Pensacola. Before the expiration of their term of service, Capt. Johnston, was, on recommendation of Genl Bragg, promoted to the post of Brigade Qr Master, and afterwards, promoted to the rank of Major, and on re-organization of the army, in this Department, was invited and urged by General Bragg, to enter his Staff where he is now engaged. His present position can, however, be readily supplied- and I am quite sure that Genl Bragg would yield his consent, under the circumstances to the transfer of Major Johnston to Alabama, for the position contemplated. + In reference, however, to the execution of the Conscript law- I beg to say that the enrollment should be pushed as rapidly as possible- otherwise ~~xxxx~~ until the grain & provision crops shall have been secured beyond contingency. There are several Counties in North Alabama, unfortunately occupied by the Enemy, and some

secondly threatened where no movements can be had, owing to some disaffection in portions of that section, the due proportion of Volunteers has not been raised there; and to undertake in the presence of the enemy, the enforcement of the Conscription laws in several Counties in North Alabama, will be attended with great difficulties, and, in all human probability, with serious civil disturbances. And if it could be easily executed, to call away the farmers in that grain section, in the midst of the cultivation of their Crops, which would result in almost Total loss of them; the farmers being, generally, men of small means, and possessed of few slaves to labor for them, would be to entail Calamity & suffering upon the women & children in those Counties. And this remark may be affirmed of many neighborhoods all over the State. Already, there are many families reported to the public authorities, in need of assistance, and who are being provided for under a timely provision of our State Legislature. The productive resources of the State have already been ~~largely reduced by the~~ greatly reduced by the large number who have flocked into Volunteer organizations, to avoid Conscription. I beg to ask your careful examination of a letter sent yesterday, from this Department, to Gen'l Cooper, Adjutant Gen'l. By that you will be advised that, instead of twelve new Regiments called for by your predecessor, Alabama has furnished at least twenty-two. There is a large number of Companies, in all arms of the service, from the State of Alabama — scattered throughout the Confederacy, who have never reported to this Department, and of whom we have no record in the office of the Adjutant-General of the State. Upon an estimate made by him from the Rolls in his Department, and other reliable but unofficial data, he is confident that Alabama has contributed near sixty five thousand troops to the Confederate Service. This State makes no boast of what she has done for the good Cause of the Confederacy, but regrets it has not been in her power to do more; yet I deem this a fit occasion to state the facts herein communicated, and to invite your calm consideration upon them. Our immediate enemies must be fed, and to sweep away, in the middle of the crops, so large a laboring force as is covered by the Act of Conscription, in addition to that already gone, would be to strike a blow, which might entail misfortune upon the Cause, which it was intended to advance. The vital importance of this matter, must be accepted as my apology for the length & gravity of this communication.

Very respectfully,
Your obt Servt
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter
Gov of Alabama.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, May 21st 1862

Peter Hamilton, Esq, Mobile.

Dear Sir,

Your favour of 20th inst, with correspondence with Comm. Randolph, turning over the Alabama iron-clad Ram, is received, and the action of the Commissioners, is duly approved. I trust the boat may prove a most valuable addition in the Defence of the Bay & Harbor of Mobile.

With great respect, I am
Your obt Servt

(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

120

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, May 31st 1862.

Wm. L. G. Green, Quarter-Master-Gen.l of Alabama, Mobile.

Dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your favor of 28th inst., and have the pleasure, in reply thereto, to submit an explanation, which I have been daily communicated, had not the pressure of official engagements caused me to forget it. Some time since, Judge Thomas A. Walker called at the Executive Office, to see if he cld obtain any Salt. In the Conversation, he referred to Alabama Salt, at Memphis, incidentally. He then informed me that he should leave in a few days, for Mississippi, and if he could aid the State, in any way -

way, in getting her Salt through, he would go to Memphis, & make the effort. At that time, I had despaired almost of getting it through, as your Agent had not been able to move it, on account of the Military operations on the Road; and, as Judge Walker was connected with the Rail-Road enterprizes of the Country, & might accomplish something for us, in a way which we might not be able to foresee I readily accepted his proposition, & furnished him with funds to receive the Salt, and with authority to direct the Shipment to Mobile, - to now, of Course - as Quarter-Master Gen.l of the State. No further or other Authority was given to the Judge, and I am sure - in case of any promise - in case of Success, to supply him, that he will hardly assume to Control Shipments of the Salt from Mobile or elsewhere in the State. After Judge Walker left here, I did not hear from him and have had no advices from him, up to this date. Your letter is the first information received; not knowing where he was. I, of Course, approved every suggestion or move of yours, to get the Salt. This, you see, General, that in what I did, I was stimulated, primarily, by an intense desire to secure the Salt, while I regret that you were not advised of my Commission to Judge Walker, I am sure, upon this explanation, your generous nature will acquit me of any intentional disregard of official courtesy. My high appreciation of you as a public officer - as well as my personal regard, would have prevented such action on my part. You will please report the quantity of Salt brought through by Judge Walker - and the quantity you have on hand. Also, advise, if you please, whether we have any Salt on the Rail-roads - Elsewhere, in Mississippi, and whether you have any recent advices as to the quantity & Condition of the Salt left in New-Orleans.

I have appointed Mr. A. G. McGehee, of Lowndes Co. Superintendent Commissioner of the Salt-Works of the State; and he goes down to Clarke Co. next week, with Tools, & a force to make a thorough Exploration of the Salt-region, with a view to its utmost development.

Very respectfully, yours,
(Signed) Jno. Gill Shorter.
Governor of Alabama.

Executive Department
Montgomery Alabama, May 31st 1862.

Hon. C. G. Memminger, Secretary of the Treasury, Richmond,

Sir;

I have the pleasure to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 21st inst. with enclosures, which are quite satisfactory. The statement made by you, that "Alabama has promptly met every requisition made upon her by patriotism or by law," is in my humble opinion, a just & honorable exhibition of Alabama's devotion to the cause of the Confederate States. This Cause she has espoused from the first, and she will continue to contribute

her entire resources, until the ultimate and entire triumph of the Confederacy shall have been achieved.

The act of Congress, approved April 2d 1862, which you have enclosed me, I had not seen before its receipt with your letter. This act merely authorizes the State to pay over the amount agreed upon with you, as an approximation to the sum which may be found due, by a completion of the assessment; but it also authorizes the State to retain ten-per-centum on that amount; and had I seen the act before the payment of the two millions, I would have called your attention to this fact, and would have asked to retain two hundred thousand Dollars of the amount paid over to Mr Sanford. This it appears, by the act the State had the right to retain, as the amount of the two Millions was raised upon a sale of the eight-per-Cent bonds of the State; and as other Bonds must probably be sold to meet deficiencies in State Appropriations, and, on this account, the State cannot conveniently continue to large an advance; and, inasmuch as subsequent reflection & examination have satisfied me that the assessment will fall short of the two Millions, I have to request that you will give me a Warrant on the Sub-Treasurer here, to return to Duncan N. Graham, Treasurer of the State of Alabama, ~~Two Hundred Thousand~~ Dollars, being ten per centum on the two Millions advanced. Hoping that this request may occasion no inconvenience to the Confederate Treasury, I am, dear Sir,

very respectfully,
your obedient Servant
(Signed) Ino Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, May 31st 1862

Gen.l Braxton Bragg,
Head-Quarters, Corinth, Mississippi.

Dear General,

As you are, still, I believe, in Command of the Department, which embraces the greater portion of this State, I have thought it best to write you, unofficially, placing before you what I conceive to be the true situation of South-Alabama, in the hope that your Sagacity & resources may furnish me suggestions on which I can induce the Government at Richmond to act; or, so far as the limited- and daily- diminishing resources of the State will allow me- I can act myself.

As to Mobile, I have great confidence in Gen.l Dorsey. Since he has assumed Command, he has accomplished more, in the same time with the means he could control, than, I believe, could have been done by any man except yourself; and while extending, & perfecting the Defences, he has also infused his own zeal & spirit into the hearts of the troops, and the people. Whatever the result may be, it will not be discreditable to him or the State.

My own opinion- however, is, that they can & will bring a force against the Forts, which cannot be successfully resisted; our ammunition- or our men will be exhausted; and although some of the Gunboats will be crippled or sunk, others will pass. Under greatly more, upon the defenses & obstructions in the Bay of Mobile, than on the guns of the Forts. But even should Mobile fall, it is more than questionable if they can go far above, as, with the present stage of water- and the batteries & obstructions above, it will be both hazardous and difficult for the Gunboats to ascend the river any distance.

But I do not believe that there will be an attack on Mobile for the present: My apprehensions are for Pollard; and it is- as to the best means of repelling or preventing any attempt in this direction, that I am principally concerned. If successful the line of Communication, between this Point and Mobile, at Pollard & Letohatchie, would be greatly interrupted; as the Alabama river, in a very short time, be navigable only by the smallest class

& boats, and, should they secure Pollard, I fear they would have but little difficulty in obtaining possession of this point and Selma also. The Enemy might, it is true, fear to diverge so far from their Base as Montgomery is, & stop at Pollard; but thei isolating the Army at Corinth, & effectually, cutting it off, the prestige & incidental advantages accruing from the occupation of Montgomery, would be so great, that, if it were deemed practicable, no means, trouble or expense would be spared to accomplish it.

From the best information I am able to obtain, there are, at this time, about four Thousand troops - at & near Pensacola - including about six hundred Cavalry - & two field-batteries. I suppose that from Ship-island, Key West, & if need be, from other points, they can double their present force in a fortnight - every man of which can be used in this direction; for the Forts can be manned with Sailors from the Fleet, and their whole Land-force precipitated upon Pollard. By going up Blackwater, which has depth sufficient for their smallest Gun-boats & Transports, to a few miles above Milton. They strike a fine road - through a high champaign Country, affording no defiles, or other means of defense by a small force; and the distance from the Landing point to Pollard, not more than from twenty five to thirty miles. The only force to oppose them is a Florida Regiment - about eight Hundred strong - well armed - a small battery of Field Artillery - both at Pollard - and between that place & Pensacola, some five or six new Cavalry Companies - indifferently armed with shot-guns, with a Regiment - not more than seven Companies of which armed, & those very poorly. The force at Mobile - without the batteries - does not amount to much; but the bringing any part of it to the support of Pollard, would be prevented by a demonstration of the Enemy, in the direction of Mobile, with a portion of the Naval force. I may be wrong for I make no pretensions to military skill, but it is my firm Conviction that at this time, three Thousand troops with six hundred Cavalry, with two field-batteries, could take Pollard against any force we could bring to its support. The State can do, literally, nothing. It has exhausted its arms & ammunition; - every thing but its men. In two two weeks time we could not raise & arm one thousand troops even with shot-guns: and with the panic which would ensue with five thousand or even a smaller number of the Enemy's troops at Pollard's, there would be no difficulty in reaching this point. In the present condition of things we could not look to Georgia or Tennessee. Mitchell, I learn, is threatening Chattanooga, & Genl E. K. Smith dispatches me for armed troops to operate in that direction; while Genl Ledbetter wants some of our Regiments to disturb the Enemy at Nashville. Of course I need not go into details as to the Consequences of the occupation of Montgomery. Its effect upon Corinth - upon the Cannon-foundries at Selma, only fifty miles distant; with which the Confederacy has extensive Contracts - upon a heavy Slave-population in the Centre of the Cotton-growing region - in the depression of our people - and the probable dis-affection which might follow - as it has in North-Alabama. But, above all, there looms-up its effect upon its effect upon the Army at Corinth. How is it to be supplied? what is to prevent its melting away in two months or less. Shall it be able to delay a general action for that length of time or if his forces should not be totally routed? If I know myself, however much I might regret the necessity, I would, most cheerfully see Montgomery razed to the ground - or smouldering in ashes, if it contribute even to the chances of the success of your army; and I encourage the defense of Pollard, more for the effect it would have upon Corinth, than from any other Consideration.

Should you, my dear General, agree with me, I know that you will deem it a matter of duty to impress your views upon the Government at Richmond. It will listen to you more favorably

than to myself; although every thing that I can do in that direction, shall be done. What I want is arms and ammunition, Cannon and especially officers— Officers who know— and will do their duty; who can and will impress themselves upon their subordinates and the troops of their Command. We want a good man at this point at Pollard, at this moment. The men can be had— if the other things needful can be supplied.

I have extended this letter, I fear, to an unreasonable length, but you will excuse me, "for the Cause".

You will add one more to the many favors I have already received from you, if you can spare me an hour from your arduous and responsible duties, for a brief & early reply. In the hope of receiving it, I am, most sincerely, your friend

(signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department;
Montgomery, Ala; May 29th 1862.

Gen[l] Sam[l] Cooper, adjutant & inspector-Gen[l] C.S.A.
Gen[l]

Enclosed you have Statements of the Regiments recently organized in this State, with date of organization, & the number given to each. In some Cases, as you will observe, the number of the Regiment does not correspond with the date of its organization; which was caused by the date not being reported, until after other Regiments had been numbered. I presume that it will make no material difference.

I think you must have omitted one of the Regiments from this State; as there were twenty nine in service— exclusive of Col. Tabnacle's, which, you telegraphed me, bore that number. The one omitted is either that of Col. A.A. Hughes— or J.D. Hale— both twelve-months' Infantry Regiments, organized last December or January. Col. Hughes, with most of his men, were taken prisoners at Fort Donelson. The Regiment of Col. Hale is now at Corinth. In addition to the organization— as per Statement Enclosed— there are two Cavalry— and several unattached infantry Companies. One of Cavalry, however, has been sent to Mobile— by order of Gen[l] Forney— its horses to be temporarily used for Field-Batteries at that point.

The 41st 44th 46th and 48th are in Camp doing nothing. Hall's Legion has twenty six (26) men doing Vidette duty, between Pascagoula & Mobile, also by order of Gen[l] Forney, and has furnished a guard for the Prisoners at this place, all of whom, however, leave tomorrow, for Macon, Georgia.

I am urging the returns of the muster-Rolls, on the Commanders of Regiments; but find them very slow. I think they will all be in, next week.

Very Respy, Your obt Servt
(signed) Jno Gill Shorter.
Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala, June 3d 1862.

P.S. Have, this moment, been telegraphed by Gen[l] Bragg, to send all organized Regiments to Columbus Miss. Shall send him the Regiments— last above-named.

Executive Department;
Montgomery, Ala., June 3d 1862.

Brig Gen[l] Jno St. Forney— Head-Quarters, Mobile.
Sir;

I wrote you on the 28th ult. as to the payment of the 2d & 3d Regiments of Alabama Volunteer Militia— ordered into service at Mobile, to which, I beg again to call your attention. I had, previously written you as to the transportation accounts of Ninety-day Troops ordered from the interior, to rendezvous at Mobile, and your A.A. General, under date of the 16th ult. informed, from this Department that your Staff officers

the Quarter-master at Mobile, to pay these accounts. I beg now to call your attention to the pay-account of these troops. The Quarter-Master, from report to this office, is disinclined to pay these troops; and I am sorry to have to invite to your conduct in the premises, in relation to our State Troops, has given me annoyance, and impressed the belief that he is either unaccommodating in temper — or ignorant of his duties. That he may be fully advised, I have troubled myself to hunt up the dispatches which passed between the President & myself, & herewith hand you copies of the.

"Montg.y March 5th 1862

Jeff. Davis, Prest. C. S. A. Richmond, Va.

Shall order out several Thousand Militia, to defend Mobile; Will Confederacy subsist & pay the men? + + + + +

(Answer) John Gill Shorter."

"Richmond, March 8th 1862

Gov. J. G. Shorter,

The Militia you are sending to Mobile, will be received. Pay & allowances are the Consequences.

+ + + + + +

Jeff. Davis."

I have to ask you further to instruct the Quarter-master at Mobile, to pay all the 90-day troops, when they are discharged or the money is due them. He is reported to me to have volunteered the opinion that "the State ought to pay these troops."

Pardon me for suggesting that these troops have been, more or less dissatisfied, both with State and Confederate authorities, in respect to certain orders affecting their status; and I hope, that when disbanded, they will be promptly paid off, as the good-faith of the Confederacy requires this shall be done

Very resp'y y'rs.

(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter

Gov. of Ala.

Executive Department

Montgomery, Ala, June 4th 1862

Mr. G. G. Lyon,

Dear Sir.

Your letter of the 31st Ulto. was received yesterday. I have written to Col. Byrd to detach or discharge Mr Greer, & to direct him to report to you, and that you would give him the necessary information & instructions.

If he reports to you, you will make a Contract with him, such a one as you would make for yourself, & direct him to report himself to Col. A. G. McGehee, the Superintendent of the Hands that will be engaged for the State, to make salt. Col McGehee is written to, & is in the neighbourhood of the Salt-works, working by Night & Nights. Mr Greer should take his tools — mule & necessary hands, and take provisions to do him until he gets to the place of destination. If you can employ another borer, with the necessary equipment, you will please do so, on same terms, with similar instructions. The State will furnish subsistence, after their arrival, at the place of working.

When you make the Contract or Contracts, write the Governor — as I may be absent. The Governor thanks you for your efforts to serve the State.

I will remember the "Sack-Race."

Very Respectfully.

A. B. Moore,

Aid de Camp.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, June 5th 1862.

Dr. S. Wolff, Mobile,
Dear Sir,

I herewith hand you a copy of the decision which I have deemed it my duty to make, in the Case made by the seizure of the Steamer Florida. I trust that, when carefully examined into, all Parties interested will be satisfied with the result. The work should have been sooner accomplished, but the severe and daily ~~increasing~~ pressure upon this Department, has operated the delay.

I propose to pay the owners the valuation affixed in State Bonds, bearing ten years to run from first July next, interest payable annually, at eight Per Ct.

Proof will be required, to establish the ownership of the Steamer, and the loyalty of the owners to the Confederate Cause. If you be one of the owners, I have pleasure in saying, that no evidence will be required, as to your devotion to the State of Alabama and the Confederate States.

Respectfully, your obt Servt.
(Signed) John Gill Shorter.
Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. June 5th 1862.

Hon. J. H. Johnston, Mayor of the City of Montgomery;
Dear Sir;

I am in receipt of your note of this date by the hands of Mr. Dixon, and am at a loss to interpret its meaning. You say "the City Council, at its last meeting, rescinded the resolutions appropriating money to pay drayage. They thought they had a right to do it, as nothing had been done; and the Ware-houses are, now, nearly emptied of their Contents." The Italics are my own; and I am at a loss to understand, how it is possible that "nothing has been done," and yet, that "the Warehouses are now, nearly, emptied of their Contents." I am informed that there are not, now, probably, remaining, over 2000 bales in the three Warehouses, near the Centre of the City; and that over 800 bales had been hauled to "Lanier's Warehouse" the Drayage on which, the City Council obligated themselves to pay, before the order of removal was issued from this department. I, therefore beg leave, respectfully, to ask an explanation of your note, and also to be advised whether I am to understand the note to be an official Communication from you, as Mayor of the City of Montgomery.

The statements, after the pledge of the faith of the City, officially Communicated to me; and which were made the basis of the order issued by me, are so extraordinary, that I must decline to found any action upon them until explained, and assured in an official form, of their verity.

Respy Yrs.
(Signed) John Gill Shorter.
Gov. of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, June 6th 1862

Dr. L. M. Garland, President of the Univ. of Ala. Tuscaloosa;
Sir, Enclosed, herewith, you will find a report by Professor Darby, of explorations in the Salt regions of Clarke County. Mr. A. G. McGehee has been appointed Superviser of the Salt works of the State, and has now gone to Clarke with hands and implements for boring. He is accompanied by Professor Darby, who will Complete his observations in Clarke, and with his aid, and the energy and experience of Mr. McGehee, I hope to develope the full Capacity of the Salines of Clarke. A Clerk has also been sent, for the purpose of examining improvements, and I trust there will be found much worthy of encouragement, in the way of

132

Very to assure you, that I will do all in my power to develope the resources of the State, and supply the wants of the people; and trust that it will be in your Power, to co-operate, by examination + tests of Salines, in Greene. Elsewhere, either in Concert with Professor Darby, or Singly.

I sincerely Thank you for the information of the Springs in Greene, and hope for success in that quarter.

Very respectfully, Yours,
(Signed) Mc Gill Shorter.

Have forwarded Copy of your letter to Gen Goldthwaite + Prof Darby.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama June 7th 1862

Gen D. C. Greene, A. D. C. Genl of Alabama militia.

Dear Sir.

I have the pleasure to acknowledge receipt of your letters of the 2d + 4th inst, for which am obliged, + My instructions to Judge Walker were sent in writing, but I certainly expected that the Salt on arrival at Mobile, would be secured - over to you, and regret that he did not leave it or the greater portion of it, with you, for distribution from that point. He informed me, by letter from Selma - of the 1st inst that he had secured there with 928 sacks, + put it in store, and enclosed me an order on the Confederate Commissary there, for 1251 sacks. He started from Tuscumbia with 1299, but 21 were lost on the way. There is no Confederate supply here at this time, but daily arrivals are expected. Your suggestion, of the propriety of exchanging by weight, is approved if it can be effected. How to get at the weight of the 1251 sacks at Tuscumbia is the difficulty; an average sack might be weighed, and then the average might be approximated. I will endeavour to profit by the suggestions. + should you get out of a supply, I will try to furnish you some; but the salt famine is becoming alarming. There are great numbers - many of the States who are entirely destitute; and it has become necessary to break the sacks, and sell, by retail, in small quantities so as to distribute the supply as generally as possible, giving preference, always - to families of Soldiers - absent in the service. The salt to be made for sale, by Messrs Wright + Rives, Lessees of State Springs, I have secured for this purpose; and, as it will be much cheaper than our former supplies, and will be insufficient for general demand, I shall reserve it, exclusively, for families of Soldiers, and distribute it to the different Counties, through the Judges of Probate as equitably as possible. + I have appointed Mr M. J. McGehee Superintendent + Commissioner for the Salt works of the State, and he has gone down, with Professor Darby, of Alabama, etc. and with hands - tools and teams, to store supply to replace the Salt Virgin, with a view to developing its utmost capacity, and the establishment of works at the upper reservoir if found practicable. There are a number of Springs - owned by private persons - in the State being worked - and others, perhaps, unemployed; all of which I shall overlook, with the purpose of stimulating their utmost capacity. Suspect, of my duties here will be to visit the Salt-fortifications and Salt works most accessible, and from time to time, proceed to Mobile + New Orleans to confer upon the duties of your office, as prescribed by the Army regulations, and have not yet received - instructions or recommendations, which you have or have before had on the same subject + Unfortunately for many of the State officers, the incumbents, owing to the want of a better organization have devolved upon them unusual, sometimes, irksome duties, which should be properly performed by others. The absence of a regular system - especially in our Militia - Defense system, which I am glad to say in Alabama exists to a full degree, more or less complete in every County. Your office should have been established, here

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [

to [illegible] great movements to obtain control of our great Staple, should be watched with great caution.

The decline of Mr Taylor, to buy up, within the Confederate States, and French accounts, a large amount of Cotton — might be proper, and indeed extremely agreeable to our people, if rested upon sound National Policy, but, and its face, it is mixed with deceptions and without some satisfactory guaranty, will not be sustained by public opinion. The War with the United States has assumed such a character & proportions, that the Cotton-planters, as a body, with unbounded patriotism, and heroic devotion, will burn & destroy the valuable products of their labor, and the great staples of the country, rather than risque their falling into the hands of the Enemy, even though obtained by the thousands for Neutral Nations abroad. And this resolution of the masses is in perfect accordance with what is understood to be the policy of the Government — distinctly announced in a letter of yours, recently published. & In the letter to Mr Taylor, upon which the Government will issue instructions, "to refrain from the destruction of such Cotton". That is Cotton belonging to the subjects of Neutral Nations. The condition, expressed or required, is "an official assurance" — "formally communicated" by the neutral nation, that Cotton, belonging to its subjects, "shall be effectually protected against seizure and appropriation by the Enemy." No an official announcement — formally made — in the terms used by you, could not be communicated, without being preceded by — or accompanied with — a formal recognition of the Confederate States. It seems to be a fair interpretation of your note that Recognition of the Confederate States is the Condition — and sole Condition, upon which our Government is to interpose, for the protection of Cottons owned by the subjects of such Neutral Nations as may recognize our Government. I am not fully informed what this is — by the laws of Nations — in the condition of War in which we are placed, the act of recognition imposes the duty of protection, in the existence of Treaty-stipulations. If they do — then, our Government could not, properly superadd any further stipulation or Condition, and the United States Government could not refuse protection to the Cotton of Neutrals, which might be found within their lines. However this may be, I take it — that the treaties between the U.S. & France — as well as England, would require the U.S. to give protection to the persons & property of both Nations. This, the U.S. professed to do, in fact, at New-Orleans, and have done every where within its past. I take it, therefore, that the U.S. government — when asked, will give every possible assurance of protection, such as referred to in your note to Mr Taylor, and that, therefore, neither France nor England will risque any thing, by not recognizing the Government of the Confederate States, that they will require such protection of the U.S. As I cannot conceive that you intended to connect the Confederate Government to the duty of protection — the point of recognition, the terms of your note convey the impression that recognition — merely will, impose the obligation. If, however, recognition would not, in our present condition, by the laws of nations, impose this obligation, then, it occurs to me that our Government might superadd the condition of an exchange of products that is, stipulated Ports. Of our Cotton sent to be sold for the proper currency, the exchange of the staple for the circulating medium should be found only to the amount or power of the Government to buy, and shipped, in fact & in power to the Cotton should be shipped out of the Country — as they might the Merchandize or Specie or certain articles in exchange for Cotton — while the sales by the Confederate Government itself, through its agents, would be confined to the Foreign exchange, and

if in declaring Munitions of War, and Cotton being Those on the Ship, by Land of Sea Operations, it would be right to Cruel the People Innocent, in exchange for the Cotton, going out, it would be perfectly Cotton + Discrimination, merely, were therefore, for all Cotton, of any Individuals, on the Enemy might allow the Cotton to find its way to Friends. What we mostly need is an open Communication, and with the with or without Recognition, we can live independently of the U. States any Policy which may lead to a Cessation of our Staple, without importation of Specie, or exchange of Commodities, will soon bring and drain the South. I will open Mr. Mason's Letter for this Communication + the request to inform me, whether Steps properly made + Stood + construed upon letter to my Predecessor.

Very respectfully,
Your obt Servt
(Signed) Wm. Hill Shorter.

(Copy)
Confederate States of America
Department of State,
Richmond, Va., May 16, 1862.

Sir:

In answer to your Communication of this morning, I have the honor to state that this Government has no desire to destroy any Cotton belonging to Neutrals; but on the contrary, is willing to extend to it full protection while in its power: provided the same protection can be made effective, when the Cotton may fall into the possession of the Enemy. The past Conduct of the Government of the United States, and the passive attitude of neutral nations whose rights have been violated by the United States has satisfied us, that if Cotton belonging to Neutrals is allowed to fall into the hands of the Enemy, it will be seized and appropriated by them - regardless of neutral rights, and that neutral Powers will fail to afford any protection to the rights of their subjects when thus violated. If however you can suggest any official assurance which may be promptly communicated by this Government of any Nation to this Nation - of a nature to satisfy us that the Cotton, belonging to the subjects of neutral nations, shall be effectually protected against seizure or appropriation by the Enemy, if allowed to fall into his possession, this Government will have no hesitation in issuing instructions to refrain from the destruction of such Cotton, compelled to seizure by the Enemy.

I am your obt Servt
(Signed) J. P. Benjamin.

C. J. Helm Esq.

Executive Department
Richmond, May 16th 1862.

Hon. J. P. Benjamin, Secretary of State.

Dear Sir,

I have the honor to enclose herewith a letter from Mr. Helm, Commissioner of this State to Kentucky, upon which I desire to submit a few remarks.

I have been informed by Mr. Helm, and I believe it to be true, that the Cotton in Kentucky belonging to citizens of the State, is in the hands of persons who are willing to sell it to the Confederate Government, and that the Cotton is now being shipped to the South. The Cotton is now being shipped to the South, and the Cotton is now being shipped to the South.

136

I thought by enclosed the receipt and disposition of the Salt to you in the best manner, and I write at present to inform that you will dispose of it to the best advantage, to meet the emergencies and pecuniary wants of the people of Mount County.

Very respectfully, Yours,
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

P.S. Have written from Selma recd. Same disposition as requested.
J. G. S.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala, June 11th, 1862.

Mr L. W. Pettibone, Selma,
Dear Sir,

Hon. Thos. H. Walker, in his letter of the 1st inst. advised me that he had deposited with you 925 sacks Salt belonging to the State. I despatched you to ship 200 sacks there, which, I believe, has arrived. Also, gave an order to deliver 20 sacks to Hon. Thos. H. Walker, and 53 sacks to Mr W. P. St John of Mount County. I now write to furnish you further instructions.

Deliver to Col. H. Jemison, jr. for Tuscaloosa market, 150 Sacks- Set aside 50 sacks for the County of Marshall - 50 for DeKalb - 75 for Cherokee - 75 for Cathoun - 50 for Talladega - 50 for St Clair; and hold subject to orders for shipments hereafter to be given.

Judge Walker advises the salt to be in Sad order; Please have the sacks repaired, so that they can be removed up the Railroad, as soon as possible.

The small supply makes it necessary to sell in small quantities, so as to meet the Current wants of the people. For this purpose, the sacks must be broken, & retailed by the pound at 10 cents per pound - as we are selling in this city - discriminating in favor of needy families of Soldiers, and those Citizens who have no Salt in hand, & who have not heretofore purchased Salt from the State - & will furnish to no one Family exceeding 2 sacks, unless upon special order.

The Assistant Quartermaster here is putting up 25 lbs, which is a half-bushel - according to the army-regulations, and our own State Standard, in small sacks, and selling at $2.50 per small sack. You will collect, by retail, the Salt remaining in your hands, after deducting the number of sacks for the Counties specified. And when will, as equitably as you can, issue to the Counties of Shelby - Bibb - Perry - & Dallas. I hope, before long, to furnish a further supply at Selma.

Respectfully, Yours,
Signed Jno Gill Shorter.
Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, June 11th 1862.

Hon. C. G. Memminger, Secretary of the Treasury, Richmond.
Sir,

I duly received your letter of the 6th inst, and, to-day, telegraphed you, that Capt. Joseph B. Bradley was under sentence, and that letter could reach him at Guntersville, Marshall Co. Ala.

There is reason, so far, but little done, towards assessing the War-tax in Alabama. In many of the Counties, there seems to have no subordinate set of Assessors, and some of the County or District Collectors have died or gone into the Army. I have issued a circular to the different Counties, making enquiries in this subject, of which, I enclose you a copy. So far, the advices are, that in few counties are being assessed, and the officers making have no instructions sufficient or blanks for the work. This should be supplied at once, and the pay or rate of Compensation to the assessors should be also fixed. I am unable to give information here on this point. If Bradley should come here, or can find his residence, I will write him. Otherwise, I will not.

Lt. Col. Bradley Stovall sends the petition, Stovall have no difficulty in procuring the officers, which would attend to his business for the federal troops with their baggage & subsistence.

Resp. respectfully, Yr. obd. Serv.t.

(Signed) Geo. Gaines.
Com.g officer.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. January 12th 1832.

Hon. H. W. Hunicutt, Secy. of State, Richmond.

Sir;

Inclosed, I send a letter which I have just received, from Mr D. Lamar, of Montgomery Co. Geo.a, to which I beg to call your attention; and upon the statement of facts therein, I respectfully request his discharge from service. I have learned, from other sources, that Mr Lamar's presence is demanded at home, by his official duties, and I hope you may be able to grant him relief by discharge.

I am, Sir, most respectfully, Yr. obt. Ser.t

(Signed) McWillie Gwin.
Gov.r of Ala:

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. June 11th 1832.

Hon. A. McMahon, Centre, Cherokee Co. Ala.

Dear Sir,

I am instructed by the Governor, to inform you, that he has deposited, at Selma, Alabama, seventy Sacks of Salt (70) for the County of Cherokee; and you are appointed, hereby, agent for the State, for the sale & distribution thereof. It is the object of the Governor to supply the people of the State, who are without salt or nearly so, with it, so far as it may be in his power. It is important for the State, to have it conveyed to the different Counties.

The Governor has, therefore determined to have it deposited at the most convenient Points on the Rivers & Navi- Roads, and upon the Agents, to have it transported.

The Sacks are old, in bad order, and must be handled with great care, to prevent loss. The Salt was purchased at high prices, and must be sold so as to pay Cost & Charges.

The Governor instructs me to say, that it must be sold so as to pay ten (10) cents per pound at Selma; to which you must add cost of Transportation to Cedar- Bluff.

It must be sold for Cash, in small quantities- first to destitute families, who are without Salt, and then to others who are destitute. You will discriminate between families, and let them have only in proportion to numbers, by pecks- half-bushels- bushels, & more, but in no case- to exceed one sack to any one family. The agent scarcity of Sacks makes it necessary to distribute in small quantities.

The Governor hopes you will accept the position and go to Agent. You will find enclosed, one Ord. Dr. Pettibone, Clerk for Sale of Salt & Board you decline to accept, you will immediately advise me. The order, I will, of course, recompensated for your services & expenses.

Very respectfully, your obt. Serv.t

A. J. Moore, Sec. of State.

P.S. For distribution you will estimate 70 lbs to the bushel, which is the Standard & many quantities.

Executive Department Mont.y June 11th 1832

L. C. Pettibone, Esq. Clerk, &c. Sir, I am directed by Gov. McWillie, to inform you, that he has appointed you Agent for the distribution of Salt to the Citizens of Cherokee County, & to this end, has deposited, at Selma, Seventy-five Sacks of Salt, for the use of the State. You will find enclosed, an order, directing you to receive the Salt, & to distribute it to the Citizens of Cherokee County, at ten cents per pound. You will receive for your services, the same compensation, allowed to Clerks of the Circuit Courts. Your duties will be similar to those of Clerks of the Circuit Courts, in relation to the Salt. You will receive from Mr. Selma, the Salt, & will give him a receipt for the same, & will account to the State for the proceeds of the Salt. You will also receive from Mr. Selma, the Salt, & will give him a receipt for the same, & will account to the State for the proceeds of the Salt. You will also receive from Mr. Selma, the Salt, & will give him a receipt for the same, & will account to the State for the proceeds of the Salt.

(Signed) A. J. Moore, Sec. of State.

Telegram to Governor Moore from Mayor Thos. Nicholson, Mobile, Ala.
Says Gen. Bragg has been ordered to Mississippi, Gen. Van Dorn to Vicksburg, Gen. Price to Corinth, Gen. Lovell to Jackson, Miss. Gen. Smith to Tupelo, Gen. Hindman to Little Rock, Gen. Holmes to Arkansas.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. June 12th 1862.

Hon. S. H. Johnston, Mayor of the City of Montgomery,
Sir:

I avail myself of the earliest convenient opportunity, to reply to your communication of the 5th Instant which I am officially advised that the City Council of Montgomery have rescinded their Resolution appropriating funds to defray the expense of the removal of Cotton from the Ware-houses near the centre of the City, to "Gunter's Ware-houses" as directed in the Special order, No 29, from this Department, bearing date, 7th May 1862.

In my communication of the 8th May, "to the Hon. the Mayor and Council of the City of Montgomery", I enclosed a copy of the order, and stated that "this order had been made for the purpose of saving the City from fire, in the event it should be necessary to burn the Cotton to prevent it falling into the hands of the Enemy; and inasmuch as it is designed for the benefit of the City, I think the City Authorities should assume the Payment of the expense of removing it. I have no doubt you will take the same view of it, & I shall, therefore, make the execution of the order dependent upon your action, in the premises."

In reply to this Communication, I was officially informed that the City-Council had appropriated $5000, and placed the amount subject to my control, for the execution of the order. On receiving this notification, I caused the order to be published, and detailed an officer to carry it into effect. Much the larger portion of the Cottons, I am pleased to hear, have been removed from the Central Ware Houses, and shipped out and away from the City, leaving some seven thousand bales yet remaining. So long as these Cottons continue the object contemplated by me, in the order of removal, is unaccomplished, and the danger of burning a portion of the City still exists; but as the execution of the order was made dependent upon the action of the City Council— the proper guardians of the City— and as I am now officially advised that the appropriation made by them has been countermanded, I have to inform you that, by this action of the City Council, the order for the removal of the Cottons issued from this Department is wholly suspended.

Very respectfully &c.
(Signed) Jno. Gill Shorter.
Gov. of Ala.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. June 14th 1862.

Gil. Jones & Co. Cotton Factors, Ala. Town
The Governor is absent on business, & will not return for some days. Without intending, at this time, to commit him with regard to the enquiry, contained in your letter of 10th inst, my opinion is, that if the language of "X.Y." quoted by you, amounts to any offence, it is Sedition which does not amount to any statute passed by Congress, for the punishment of sedition, and am therefore of the opinion, that the language referred to, does not constitute any legal offence. There can be no doubt that "X.Y." is a bad man, and guilty of a moral offence of a high character, deserving to be punished— one of the objects of the Civil Government is to punish & deter them— as to such cases, as are not provided for by Law, such cases must be left to the sound discretion of the Committee; & they should not hesitate to deal with them as the good & safety of the Community demands. Very respectfully &c.
(Signed) A. Iverson Jr.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala: June 14th 1862.

Gen[l] L. P. Walker,
Sir;

Your communication of the 11th inst was received by the Governor only a few hours before the time when, according to arrangements previously made, he was compelled to leave the City, on important State business. He gave, however, to your suggestions, that consideration which the matters to which they relate demanded, and desired me to communicate them to you, with the expression of his regret, that on a subject immediate the best interests of the State were so vitally concerned, an opportunity could not be had for a free-frank & full interchange of opinions.

You, of course, need no assurance, that the Governor is fully alive to the importance of freeing North Alabama from the odious domination of the forces of the Enemy which infest it; and while he is most anxious to accomplish the result, and would not hesitate to employ the power & resources of the State to effect it, he deems it his duty to state to you, frankly, that he does not believe it can be done in the mode you propose; unless indeed the Enemy has withdrawn the greater portion of his force. He understands you to suggest that for this purpose, five thousand of the State Militia be ordered out, and to express the confident opinion, that this force can be raised in ten days. Now, the Governor does not believe that such a force or any thing approaching it can be brought into the field, so as to act with any efficiency in less than three months. He does not think it can be done even in that time; and he bases his opinion upon the practical experience he has had upon the question. He tried it in the case of Mobile, to which you refer, and the result there was almost a total failure, although made under circumstances greatly more favorable than surround us at this time. Outside of the City of Mobile, not exceeding fifteen hundred troops could be obtained on a call which, it was confidently anticipated, would raise more than five thousand; and even the number of fifteen hundred was not raised, with the most active exertions, on part of the Governor and his officers, as may think, in the time you allow for more than treble the number. Since in calling for the defense of Mobile, full fifteen thousand Volunteers, from this State have been added to the Confederate forces; and the Conscript act has devoted to the same service, all who are left between the ages of eighteen & thirty five. But even if the five thousand men can be raised, how are they to be armed - equipped - supplied with ammunition and subsistence? You may remember that it was a work of the most difficulty to arm about two thousand troops, last December, from the Valley of the Tennessee, to Fort Henry & Nashville; and that of the arms, no inconsiderable portion was supplied by the State. Our brave and patriotic men, who are forming, in small numbers, into partisan bands, in upon desertion of the State, find it difficult to obtain arms, and apply to the Governor to furnish them, insisting that they cannot be had in North-Alabama. But could this difficulty be overcome, and arms obtained, how are the five thousand men to be equipped. How long will it take, to supply them, simply, with Wagons & Harness without which, at this season of the year, it would be hard to move them. Have you supplies of Powder and Lead? and, if not, where & how are they to be obtained? Almost the last service the gunboats, belonging to the State, rendered, forty kegs of powder, and upwards of fifty thousand rounds of fine cartridges were, at your earnest request, furnished upon for the defense of North Alabama; and now, with the single exception of Lead, the State has no such supplies in Government hands - are almost entirely exhausted. The Governor has requested me to bring the facts above referred to, to your attention for the purpose of showing some of the difficulties which would attend the bringing in force of five thousand Militia into the field, if the same could be done in

repair to our standard for action. He considers if the Militia of the Districts he must not be called into actual service, to meet the worst that may happen, & must provide to for, if necessary, their efficiency & exactness.

Upon this information the Governor was able to obtain three of his Staff, viz Col. Hakeman, your self & Col. Broadnax, with this force, he intends to proceed for Huntsville, with which he has determined as a decisive battle impending & therefore, no sufficient force could be drawn from this County there. His Staff is small & barely sufficient in number to sustain his position at the head Quarters. Thereby cannot be left with a proper & honest discharge of Executive duties. The Governor called for the names of three Citizens, but upon his own responsibility, & under his Command, and as his special Aid-de-Camp, the necessary orders to the Officers Commanding the 1st 2d 4th 10th 12th 18th & 19th Brigades, which includes all the Militia in Madison Limestone - Lauderdale - Lawrence - Franklin - Jackson - Morgan Blount - Cherokee - De Kalb - Marshall - Fayette - Walker - Winston & Marion, ordering their whole Force - or such portion of it as you may deem necessary - into the Service of the State, for the term of sixty days, - unless sooner discharged - to employ Special Couriers, at the Expense of the State, for the transmission of the orders - to furnish transportation at the cost of the State - to press guns, ex valuation, to supply those who make affidavit that they cannot arm themselves - the valuation to be paid the owner, if the guns are not returned at the expiration of the term of service - to apply thirty thousand Dollars in the purchase of equipments; and whatever, in the exercise of a sound discretion, you may deem necessary for assistance.

In conclusion, the Governor sincerely hopes & trusts, that on the spot as you will be, the troops - with the aid they will derive from your vigour & military experience, will be able to redeem North Alabama from the invader, and, thus, to demonstrate that he is mistaken in his opinion. No one will be more rejoiced to be convinced than himself.

Very Resp'y, yr. obt. Servt.

(Signed) Geo. Gold Thornton

P.S. Col Hakeman requires that he extend through the Maj. Gen's Ignt you to Col. Timmons residence.

1	Brigade	"	Maj. Gen. Newman	Huntsville	"	Florence.	
2	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
4	"	"	"	Port Hampton	"	Clayton.	
10	"	"	"	Gen. N. Malone	"	Lawrenceburg.	
12	"	"	"	Port Hampton	"	Clayton.	
18	"	"	"	Gen. N. Malone	"	Lawrenceburg.	
19	"	"	"	J. Pickens	"	Pickensville.	

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. June 19th 1862.

Professor ---- Sublett, Superintendent Salt Works.

Sir, It having been suggested to the Governor, that in the extensive Salt in great abundance - have been found on the lands of the State in Clarke County, and you, having been recommended as a suitable & competent Chemist, to test the capability, quantity and extent of the same, are hereby requested to attend the agent & officer of the State for that purpose; and, as speedily as possible, to ascertain the locality, analyze the product, and report to the Governor the result; with your views of quantity & quality, Geological formation, prospects of obtaining, more of Saline - Character of the neighbouring soil, source of supply - extent & direction of Saline impregnations - intermixture of other ingredients foreign to Salt, and all such matter in connection as may assist the Governor & the People in their efforts to secure a supply of this great Staple.

If you accept this appointment, your expenses - and reasonable compensation for your services, will be paid by the State, if required.

To attain the great end in view, it is important that the work should be undertaken at once, and other localities not pointed out here, and adjacent should be tested.

Respectfully yours,
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter,
by (Signed) A.B. Moore, Aid de Camp.

P.S. You are respectfully referred, for information, to Thos. H. Anderson, Esq. of Eutaw, Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, June 23, 62

Brigadier Gen. John H. Forney, Mobile, Ala.

Sir,

I hand you enclosed a copy of the telegram, sent to the Sec'y of War on the 19th inst. while in your City, the reply to which had not been received when I left Mobile. I hope it was favorable, as it is of the utmost importance for me to get back if possible. Do press the matter.

I beg you also to issue an order immediately, directing L. A. Easterly of Captain Semple's artillery Company, to report to me A. G. McGehee State Commissioner of Salt works - at the Salt works in Clarke Co. The services of this man - the Commissioner considers, are indispensable.

Please send me the reply of the Secretary of War, to our joint dispatch - in relation to the Salt works in Alabama.

Respectfully, Yours,
(Signed) J. Gill Shorter
Gov. of Ala.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, June 20th 1862.

Messrs. Tredegar, Stewart & Co
Saltville Washington Co. Virginia

Gentlemen; Mr. A. G. McGehee, Commissioner of Salt works for the State of Ala. When in your vicinity, rec'd the proffer of your assistance, in procuring for him the services of Mr Williams, or some suitable person, competent to manage the practical operations of the Salt works. You will please secure the services of such a man, and instruct him to report to me at this place, immediately. His expenses to & fro will be paid by me - and also traveling expenses, and due compensation for services. Mr McGehee is ready now for the services of such a man.

Respectfully, Yours
(Signed) J. Gill Shorter, Gov. of Ala.

142

Executive Department,
Headquarters, Ala. June 25th 1862.

Maj. Gen'l Forney, Jackson, Miss.
Dear Gen'l.

I enclose you a letter handed me by Judge Gholston, for the purpose of having an application made to detail the persons who are named in it - with the exception of Geo. Hale, who I am already, from details, with orders to report to Dan'l Pratt, at Prattville Alabama.

Mr Pratt is rendering good service to the Confederacy & this State, and I am perfectly satisfied - that the services of the men referred - to, would be worth more to both - in his factory, than as Soldiers.

The goods supplied by Mr Pratt are extremely low - as times go, and the State, in the small purchase referred to - of osnaburgs, pays six hundred dollars less than if forced to obtain them from Secard sources. If you can, consistently, make the detail under the circumstances, you will confer still another obligation to those I am already under.

Very truly,
(signed) Jno Gill Shorter.
Gov'r of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Alabama, June 24th /62

Col. Jas. C. Pratt,
Dear Sir,

I write to you, at the instance of Gov Shorter, who instructs me to say, that it is a matter of the utmost importance, to have the assessment of the Confederate tax - for Alabama, completed, at the earliest, possible day. The Governor has paid to the Treasury two Millions of dollars, estimating that - as about the probable amount the assessment, when made, would show would be due from the State. Congress meets very soon, and it is indispensable, that the amount of taxes, imposed on the State, by the act of Congress, should be definitely ascertained, so that the necessary steps may be taken, and settled, between the State & Confederate Government during the next Session of Congress.

If the State has over paid - the balance should be returned, with the interest allowed by the act for the payment of the money by the State. (These things cannot be done) until the assessment of taxes, at an early day.

The Governor not having acquired sufficiently - of the progress being made in this work, addressed a Copy of the enclosed circular, to the Judges of Probate of each of the Counties of the State, & has received answers from a large number of them, which are intended for your inspection. They will be handed you, by Judge Phelan, whom the Governor has procured to go and see you.

These letters will show you, that further immediate action should be taken by you. Col. Allen, the chief of the Bureau of the Confederate tax - bay, is now in Montgomery, to see the Governor in regard to this matter. It seems that Mr Thomas yet has not received of your returns, and did not know but what you might be in the hands of the enemy. Col. Allen is hurrying papers and blanks forward, & is desirous to facilitate the work, in every way. I think, you were left at Huntsville, in the hands of the enemy. I was compelled to leave the Governor's Executive Office, at Huntsville, on the 11th inst. to day that he reaches you, he comes to Montgomery, and leaves, where you will have every facility to complete your returns, & any information you may desire. Please communicate, whatever is needful to the success of this law, etc.

The Governor sympathises with you in your embarrassment from family and business - and appreciates the manifest objections of your situation, and directs me to suggest, that if you are so disturbed, that you cannot attend to the duties of your office, you are at liberty to name one who can. He hopes, however, that you will be able to prevail upon yourself, and that you will, sooner, immediately, to muster forward.

With great respect your obt. Servt.

(Signed) A. M. Holmes, Aid de Camp.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. June 21st 1862.

Hon. D. L. Yancey, Secretary of War.

Sir,

I have had no reply to my letter of the 30th ult., and, to-day, I have to report the arrival of Maj. Wm. H. Anderson, Superintendent of the Bureau of Conscription to be established in this State. He carries with him instructions from Gen. Cooper, in which he is directed to furnish Enrolling officers of the State, and explains the instructions from Gen. Cooper, in which he is directed to furnish, for enrolling Conscripts, the Compensation allowed for enrolling the Militia of the State. Unfortunately, for an efficient enrollment of Conscripts, there is no compensation allowed by our law, for the enrollment of the Militia of the State, and the ordinary Militia officers, - even if they were detailed from their places at home, would not be efficient for the work. I propose - in order to dispatch the business, and, at the same time, to secure thorough work, to subdivide the State into ten or eleven divisions; and to appoint a Superintending enrolling officer for each Division, with the rank and pay of Capt. of Infantry. These officers will be directed to appoint not exceeding three Enrolling officers in each County, with the rank and pay of first & second Lieutenants. The remaining officer for the County, will be the returning officer for the County to the Captain of the division - who will consolidate, & report the returns to the Superintendant & Commandant of the Bureau. In some of the Counties, not more than one or two enrolling officers will be found necessary. & It is important to fix the basis of detail & compensation, at once, before we begin; inasmuch as Commissioners, at this season of the year, are not disposed to undertake the work - thankless and delicate - as it may be considered; without knowing, before hand, that they are to be compensated for their labor and the amount of such compensation. I therefore deem it important to invite your approval of the plan herein suggested, and to advise me, in case of approval, as to the mode in which the Compensation to enrolling officers will be made, &, I may fully communicate particulars to officers at the time of their appointment. I shall await your reply before I make any appointments, which I am willing to do to end the cause in which we are all engaged. & I have no information as to Maj. Johnston's assignment as Quarter-Master. Should he be rejected, I ask leave to be consulted in reference to the appointment to be made in that Department. Your obt. Servt.

(Signed) J. L. Pickens.

P.S. Maj. Toland, Chief Surgeon of the Bureau of Conscription for the State, to undertake the enrollment, I am prepared to name efficient Surgeons by our own officers. Then to appoint officers from the Army - entirely to the people, & one of either kind at first, from their number and selection. To appoint one for two Districts, and limit to twenty the Surgeons of the State. Such Surgeons to be paid.

J. L. P.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. June 24th 1862

Brig. Gen. Danl. H. Forney, Head-quarters, Mobile.

Sir,

Steps to enable you to allot him his Pay, for Military Services, as Brig. Gen. Quarter Master & Staff, and also the 48th & 54th & 58th Regiments of Alabama Militia. By agreement between the President of the Confederate States & the Governor of Alabama, these Officers & Troops were to be paid by the Confederacy. While in Mobile, the Paymaster Major Hatch informed me that estimates for their Payment had been sent on to the Departments & not responded to. He had, however, a large amount of Govt money, from which he could pay them, without detriment of accounts, if you would issue an order to him to pay them.

I hope it may be agreeable for you to do so, as these officers & men have been discharged some time, and are greatly in need of the small amounts due them by the Government.

Very Respt'y, Your obt Servt
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. June 25th /62

Brig. Gen. Jno. H. Forney, Head-quarters, Mobile.

Sir,

I enclose you a Copy of a Dispatch, from the Secretary of War, to Maj. Walthour, Quarter Master, here, touching the shipment of flour to New Orleans.

Maj. Walthour is absent, and, his chief-clerk informs me will not return for some days, having obtained a furlough for fifteen days. The clerk declines to take any action in the matter; I, therefore, suggest the propriety of your telegraphing Lieut. Hennecorth, A. Q. M. now in charge of the office, to allow flour purchased by Col. Harrison, & stopped here, to go forward to Mobile at once.

Very respectfully, Yours,
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama, June 26th /62

Brig. Genl. Bragg, Commanding Genl's Army, Tupelo, Miss.

Gen. Since I had the pleasure of writing you, the condition of things in this State has not materially changed, except as to the elections of the Convention. North Alabama, which have become more troubling and oppressive. The rumors we have of attacks (many having originated in malice) indicate the hope that at least a portion of your command may be allowed to operate in that section, and, knowing the pressing and constant demands upon your time, and the difficulty of conferring with you, satisfactorily, by writing, I have thought it better to do so, through my special friend Col. Harrison, a distinguished friend of Gen. Moore, who is possessed of all the information necessary, and can inform you as to the resources of the State, and the extent to which it would be able to co-operate with you. & his connected with, & coincident to his visit, I would mention that the State holds large amounts of clothing-Commutation money, due from officers' commanding companies of the Regiments, in your command, and you will oblige me by conferring on Govr Moore, all proper facilities for its collection as to those who have received the clothing money from the Confederate Government.

Very respectfully, Yours &c.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter, Gov. of Ala.

Enclosure - Respecting
Montgomery etc. Name Private.

Adjt. Gen. McRandolph, Secty of War, Lieutenant, Gen.

Sir,

The enclosed communication addressed to myself by Mrs Ann Bryan wife of Wm Bryan of Wilcox County, entitles her to especial consideration of the discharge of her son, Joseph H. Bryan, private in Jackson's Company (M.) in the 1st Regiment of Alabama Volunteers (Ketchum) addresses itself peculiarly to my consideration. The lady has visited me twice, upon the subject coming a distance of a hundred miles, and is, evidently, in much trouble. Upon her representation, her son is too sick to obey the order to join his regiment, and she swears to this fact, in her affidavit. The facts as they appear, in relation to his enlistment and discharge, are that having in service for ninety days, he re-enlisted, for the War, in the above Company & Regiment, and, after offering two substitutes - who were rejected, on inspection, he offered a substitute, who was accepted - and he was discharged, as will appear from the Copy - Discharge, embraced in the application. After the discharge was given to Mr Bryan, the substitute deserted, and Mr Bryan was held to be subject to service, and ordered to rejoin his Regiment. & Under usual circumstances, I am unable to see how he could be so held, as his discharge must be considered absolute, and he could not be considered responsible for the bad conduct or desertion of the substitute, who, by the acceptance of the proper officers, had been placed beyond his control.

But the application of Mrs Bryan discloses, with candor & frankness, a circumstance, which may have influenced the action of the officers, in saying that the substitute was said to have been a deserter from a Mississippi Regiment." Following, for the present, a discussion, whether a full discharge - without fraud on part of the recipient, can be recalled, and whether such bona-fide discharge would operate as a release from future enrollment, I would simply suggest that a number of prior desertions by an accepted substitute, undoubtedly, could not be cause of recall of discharge - previously granted. The substitute was furnished in good faith, and, until apprehended, and returned to his proper service, his desertion should not be charged against the soldier who procured him, any more than it should be against the officer who accepted him. & But it seems to me that the discharge - obtained without fraud, must be the conclusion of the matter. & Without further presuming upon your time, I respectfully recommend the application to your favorable consideration, upon the points which I have presented, but would further state, that the situation of the family & situation of Mrs Bryan, as presented in her application, and which, I am satisfied is correct, as stated by her, presents an exceptional case which, I trust you will favorably consider, and which upon will doubtless favor me with an order for the discharge of Mr Bryan from the service.

Very resp'y, Your ob't Serv't.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter, Gov'r of Ala.

(Copy of Mrs Bryan's letter alluded to above)

Tuskegee, Ala, June 17th 1862

Hon. Gen. McRandolph, Secty of War, C.S. Richmond

Dear Sir,

I am a widow residing in the County & State aforesaid. I have four sons in the Confederate army. One of whom - next to my youngest - is sick & unable to join the army of the South-west, to which he is attached. His other Brothers, & the entire

they have to sustain their wives, children and aged parents, who would be destitute without it. He entered the service, the 1st of March last, under the call of Gov. Shorter, for 90-days men, for local defence, et mobile. After the passage of the conscript-law, those in the Company within the specified ages, re-enlisted for the war — organized a new Company & joined the Regiment above specified. This was done to avoid the trouble of instruction, and, perhaps, lose the Company — or place of their choice. My family, at home consists of an idiotic son, & two unmarried daughters; the son and one daughter are severely afflicted with Epilepsy. The mind of my son is — and has been, for several years entirely destroyed; that of my daughter is gradually tending to the same condition. The disease is hereditary in the family — has existed for years — and the attacks often recurring — as often as once a week. They are both grown, and, in their unfortunate condition, require the constant care and attention of some one able to attend them. I am well-advanced in years, in feeble health, and unable to do so. The health of my other daughter is quite infirm, so much so as to put it out of her power to render me but little assistance. Upon us, therefore, in our infirmities and we are, devolves the duty of guarding & caring for these unfortunates, who are utterly unable to care for themselves. + Besides, I have a Plantation, from which I reside a distance of more than twenty miles. I have no Overseer — nor can I get one. The War has exhausted the business men of the Country; So that out of the ranks of those who have gone there will be to go. It is almost impossible — in fact — quite so, to procure men who are capable & fit to govern a place, and attend to business. Distress, if no real injury or ruin must, inevitably result to me from it. + It is not from a desire merely to get my son out of the War, nor to shirk the demand which his country has upon him for her defence, that I make this application; but, upon the contrary, I am desirous that she should have all her help, and, for that reason, I have employed three substitutes, two have been rejected — and the third, after receiving Five Hundred dollars, and being received into the Company, and my son discharged from it, deserted, and is said to have been a deserter from a Mississippi Regiment, at the time he was ~~discharged~~ received. A copy of said discharge, is here incorporated, and made part of this application.

"Soldier's Discharge."

Know ye, that Joseph Bryan a Private in Capt. Coker's Independent Company (M) 38th Regiment Ala. Volunteers, was enlisted by Capt. Peck on the 22nd day of May, 1862, to serve for three years or during the War, and is now discharged from said Co. Capt. 38th Regiment Ala. Volunteers, by order of Brig. Gen. Chilton, by authority.

Given under my hand at Camp Gen. Slaton, Mt. Pleasant, Commanding Division of Alabama, & West Florida.

The said Joseph Bryan was born in the County of Wilcox State of Alabama, is 24 years; 8 feet 8 inches high, dark hair, blue eyes, and by occupation when enlisted a farmer

Given at Corinth Miss this 11th June, 1862.

Signed W. Vredenburgh, Capt. Comdg.

Certified by [illegible] Asst. Adjt. Gen.

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Signed W. Vredenburgh, Capt. Comdg.

Certified by [illegible] Asst. Adjt. Gen.

to hereafter attending the schools established by the said Board of Trustees be and is hereby rescinded & he rejoin their duties forthwith.

In view of all the circumstances, I respectfully ask that upon will be exchanged from the service

(Signed) David H. Bryan.

The State of Alabama, Personally, came before me, J. S. Wood, Tuscaloosa County. Judge of Probate for the County aforesaid, one David H. Bryan, who, being duly sworn, deposes & says, that the facts stated in the foregoing application, are true to the best of his knowledge

(Signed) David H. Bryan.

Sworn & subscribed to, before me this the 24th day of June, A.D. 1862.

(Signed) Jo. S. Wood Jr.
Judge.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala, June 28th 1862.

Brig. Gen. Dan'l H. Forney, Head-Quarters, Mobile.

Sir, I beg to hand you the enclosed extract from a letter from D. H. Garland, Superintendent and Commandant of the Corps of Cadets, & President of the University of Alabama; together with a copy of my reply. Sincerely trust that the rumor apprehended by Dr. G. may be unfounded. The Report, however, thus officially communicated, makes it my duty to appeal to you to issue an order immediately, to the Provost Marshall or other proper officer at Tuscaloosa, to restrain from the seizure of University & State property. The necessity and propriety of this request will be apparent, on reading the correspondence enclosed. I submit, also, for your examination, a printed copy of a "Proclamation" issued by Capt. Griswold, "Post Commanding Post" on the 1st of April last, declaring "martial Law within the Corporate limits of Tuscaloosa, and for the Area of Ten miles around the City." The occasion which suggested this promulgation of this order has passed by — and its further continuance & enforcement are, wholly unnecessary — are embarrassing & troublesome both to the Provost-Marshall, & the Community; and I respectfully request that the order may be countermanded, or modified — as, in your judgement, the public exigency may demand. Indeed — it is submitted, for your determination, whether the office of Provost-marshall, at Tuscaloosa, may not be made more limited in its duties; though I would not recommend that it be entirely closed, at least for the present.

Very respectfully, Yr obt Servt.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter, Gov of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala, June 28th 1862.

Dr L. C. Garland, University of Alabama.

Dr Sir,

Your favors of the 11th & 13th inst came to hand, during my absence from the seat of Government, at Mobile. Since my return, I have the pleasure to acknowledge receipt of your favors of the 20th & 25th inst. & freely concur with you as to the propriety of re-organizing the Military department of the University, so far as to "secure greater unity & simplicity of organization, by making every Professor & instructor a military officer, and co-ordinating the whole to military Laws" adverted to in your letter of the 11th. & will be most agreeable to me, to allow the meeting at the proposed time on the 12th prox.° & in the exercise of my powers to do so, shall regard

148

148

upon the development abroad — and the breaches of any family. The Ordinance Officer has been directed to strip the cadet musketes, returned to the Magazine, in accordance with your request. Cadet Jordan has not yet reported, therefore I do not know the nature of the order issued to him by his Captain. I am now corresponding with the Secretary of War, as to the appointment of Enrolling Officers, for Alabama. I expect the appointments will be made by myself; and I hope to be able to have the work of enrollment done in such a manner, as to avoid all Controversy or Conflict of Authority. The intimation that any Confederate Officer would seize the Commissary stores of the University, failed me by surprize. If cases of the kind should occur, and I am not informed, and I can find out, I shall be found, strong, as to defend such an unauthorized procedure, and such an outrage upon State authority, you will be expected to resist him promptly, by every means at your Command. If Col. Lamison is in Tuscaloosa, I have to request that you will show him this letter. I have, to-day, written Brig. Gen.l Forney, at Mobile, and enclosed to him a Copy of your remarks, on this subject, & of my reply; and have, also, requested him, to revoke the order-declaring martial Law, issued by Capt. Gris-wold on the 18th of April, a printed Copy of which I have sent him.

Very resp'y, Yr. obt Servt.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter. Gov. of Ala.

P.S. I am having the Commissions for the Cadets prepared, as you requested, in yours of the 11th inst. and will forward them, next week.
J. G. S.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Alabama June 30th /62

Capt. Pruttville, Dragoons, Tupelo, Mississippi.

Sir, In order to complete a contract with the State of Alabama, for clothing, for Volunteers in the service, Mr Daniel Pratt desires to obtain the discharge of Mr Henry De Bartlebon, now serving in your company. I ask your favorable consideration of his request, and that you may cause Mr De Bartleben to be discharged or detailed for this duty. Respectfully, Yours.
(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter, Gov. of Ala.

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala. June 30th 1862.

Hon. A. M. Randolph, Secretary of War, Richmond, Va.

Sir:

Mr Daniel Wallace, who has a contract with the State to supply Guns, desires to obtain the services of the following operatives, now in the service of the Confederate States.

J. J. Harris, in Capt. McKenzie's Co. 10th Ala. Vol. Regt commanded by Col Woodward, near Richmond Va.

J. N. Parker, in Capt W. E. Parkison's Co. 30th Ala. Vol. Regt commanded by Col. Shelley, in Gen'l Kirby Smith's department.

Respectfully refer this matter to your consideration, and earnestly request that these men may be detailed, to report to me.

Respectfully,
Your obt servt.

(Signed) Jno Gill Shorter.
Gov of Ala.

149

Executive Department
Montgomery, Ala, July 1st 1862

Gen.l S. K. Vaughan, of Marshall Co. at Selma, Ala.

Sir,

I enclose an order to Mr Pettibone, to deliver you fifty sacks of salt, for sale and distribution, on State account, in Marshall County. You are directed to sell it in small quantities, so as to extend the supply, as far as possible, in order to meet the current wants of the people, giving families of soldiers in the army preference over all others, and particularly regarding the necessities of the indigent families of soldiers, who are sustained by the special Aid for that purpose, in the hands of your County Commissioners. You must sell it by the pound, at such prices, as will meet the State fifteen dollars per sack, in Selma.

You are authorized to retain two appropriate sacks for your own use and one for the family of Col Sheffield, at the price stated. As the management & sale of this salt will be attended with expense and trouble to you, the price at which it is sold must cover these items. With these instructions, the disposition is left to your discretion, well satisfied, as I am, that you will do distribute this needful article, as to accommodate the largest number. I hope, soon, to have it in my power to furnish other Salt, and shall make Talladega a place of deposite for your section of the State.

You will, forward your report of sales when completed, directly to this office.

Very Resp'y.
(signed) Jno Gill Shorter, Gov of Ala.

Executive Department
Montgomery, July 1st 1862.

Mr L. W. Pettibone. Selma.

Will deliver, as heretofore advised, for the use of Marshall County, fifty sacks of Salt, to Gen S. K. Vaughan, who will receipt to him for the same.

(signed) Jno Gill Shorter, Gov of Ala.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala, July 1st 1862.

Messrs Dickson, Nelson & Co. Rome, Geo.

Gentlemen,

Your letter, dated the 30th ult, postmarked, 28th ult, is, to-day received. In compliance with your request, I have written Col. J. Gorgas, Chief of Ordnance, Richmond, for authority to the "Shelby County Iron-works" to continue the delivery of the gun-scalps &c, in accordance with your order, heretofore given them. Very respectfully, yours

(signed) Jno Gill Shorter.

Executive Department,
Montgomery, Ala. July 1st 1862.

Col. J. Gorgas, Chief of Ordnance, Richmond.

Sir; I have a contract with Dickson, Nelson & Co, (formerly of Jacksonville, Ala), now at Rome, Geo. for the manufacture of five thousand Rifles & bayonets. This Company, some two months ago, made a Contract with the "Shelby Co. Iron Works" in this State, for gun-scalps, &c. I have two hundred delivered, and the Co. now advise that before further deliveries can be made, an order from you is necessary. As this was thought by Dickson, Nelson, & Co. to be the best for their purposes - and most convenient to get at, and as they, by their contract have done good ground to urge its delivery, I have to request that you will send the necessary order to them, with the further request that you will write the Messrs Dickson, Nelson & Co. that